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EASTERN

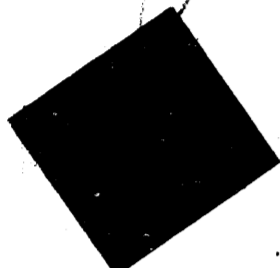
F.O.
371

1947

PALESTINE

File No. 48

pp. 7929 - 8055



CLOSED
UNTIL

1978

61824

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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406 1947

Palestine
EASTERN

EY929/G
28 AUG 1947 2

EY929/48/C

S.S. Padueah: letter to H. Vychinsky

Mr Roberts
Moscow
1907
Dated 26 Aug
Received 28 Aug

Last Paper.

EY866

(Minutes.)

30/8

References.

YY71/84/31

(Print.)

61824

(How disposed of.)

JHP 28 Aug

(Action completed.)

28/9

(Index.)

W.H.

Next Paper.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

EY929/48/5

3

AMENDMENT SLIP.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

Telegram No. 1907 of 26th August from Moscow
to Foreign Office.

Text of letter, line 13: please read:

"In view of the importance, recognised in a
resolution passed by the General Assembly....."

Lines 22-24: please read:

".....correspondence between this Embassy and the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs beginning with Sir
M. Peterson's letter to Dekanozov on July 31st
and ending with Mr. Trukhanovski's letter to
Mr. Allen".

Communications Department
28th August 1947.

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E-7929
Green 4

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Roberts D. 11.8.p.m. August 26th, 1947.
No. 1907. R. 1.45.a.m. August 27th, 1947.
August 26th, 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest,
Angora,
British Middle East Office Cairo,
Jerusalem.

-----oOo-----

Secret.

Your telegram No. 2778.

Following is text of letter delivered to Vyshinsky today.

[Begins]

"I have been instructed by my Government to draw the attention of the Soviet Government to the arrival at Constanza on about the 21st August of the s.s. "Paducah" a Panamanian-registered vessel owned by the Montrose Shipping Company of New York. From information in the possession of my Government it appears that this vessel is intended to embark Jewish illegal immigrants for Palestine. My Government is informed that these immigrants may have been issued with Uruguayan visas. The United Kingdom Political Representative in Roumania has already taken up this matter with the Roumanian Government and has requested the appropriate authorities to prevent the embarkation of the immigrants. In view of the importance, [grs. undec.] by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 5th May, 1947, that all Governments and peoples should refrain, pending action by the General Assembly on the report of the special committee on Palestine, from any action which might create an atmosphere prejudicial to an early settlement of the question of Palestine and in view of the fraudulent nature of attempts of this kind (about which concerning the sailing of the "Agia Anastasia" there was correspondence between [gr.undec.] the [gr.undec.] beginning with Sir M. Peterson's letter to Dekanozov of 31st July 1946 and ending with [gr.undec.] letter to Mr. Allen of October 25th) I am instructed to request the Soviet Government to be so good as to issue urgent instructions to the Soviet authorities in Reumania to support the intervention of the United Kingdom Political Representative with the Reumanian Government." [Ends].

Foreign Office please pass to Bucharest, Angora, British Middle East Office (Cairo), and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos. 20, 20, 55 and unnumbered.

[Repeated to Bucharest, Angora and British Middle East Office Cairo. Copies sent to Colonial Office for re-transmission to Jerusalem].

RECEIVED IN G.S.

26 AUG 1947

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EY930/G
28 AUG 54

Palestine

EASTERN

5

1947

407

31

EY930/48/C

Jewish illegal immigrants from
President Warfield

Mr Duff Cooper
Paris
841

Dated 27 Aug
Received 28 Aug.

Last Paper.

EY929

(Minutes.)

See E7938 & draft

References.

EY802/48/S

J.C. Baird
Aug 27

J.B. Aug 24

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8)HP. 28 Aug

(Action completed.)

25/20/3

(Index.)

W.H.

Next Paper.

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FO 371 / 6182A

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E E 4930 6

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Duff Cooper D. 8.00 p.m. 27th August, 1947
No. 841 R. 8.05 p.m. 27th August, 1947
27th August, 1947

Repeated to Berlin,
Jerusalem,
Lubbecke,
Washington,
Marseilles,
Commander in Chief Mediterranean,

u u u u

IMMEDIATE

Foreign Office please pass immediate to Berlin, Jerusalem and Lubbecke as my telegrams Nos. 126, 36 and 3, important to Washington as my telegram No. 182, and to Commander in Chief Mediterranean.

My telegram No. 856.

Jewish illegal immigrants.

French Government agree to admit to France all immigrants on board three ships provided they come voluntarily and provided this is not regarded as a precedent.

[Repeated to Berlin and Washington by Foreign Office].

[Copies sent to Norfolk House for restitution to Lubbecke, to Colonial Office for Jerusalem and to Admiralty for Commander in Chief Mediterranean].

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference:-

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20 AUG 1947

1947

408

Palestine
EASTERN

EY931/G
28 AUG 1947
7

EY931/48/9

Jewish illegal immigration
from Roumania

Mr Roberts
Moscow
1920

Dated 24 Aug
Received 28 Aug.

Last Paper.

EY930

(Minutes.)

Telegram sent to Montevideo
30/8

References.

EY929/48/9

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8)11P ✓ 28 Aug

(Action completed.)

25/9

(Index.)

W.P.

Next Paper.

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E7931

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2

FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Roberts.

No.1920

D.10.50 a.m. 27th August, 1947

27th August, 1947

R. 2.15 p.m. 27th August, 1947

Repeated to British Middle East Office Cairo

Jerusalem

Bucharest

.....

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No.1907.

Jewish illegal immigration into Palestine from Rounania.

On a previous similar occasion (see our despatch No.838 of October 31st 1946) Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent instructions to Soviet authorities in Rounania only after they had been informed by Costa Rican Government (supported by us) that Costa Rican visss held by Jews wanting to embark were fraudulent. Our best chance of securing requisite action in present case would seem to be to arrange, if possible, for Ministry of Foreign Affairs to be given a similar assurance with regard to Uruguayan visas which Jewish party is said to possess (Bucharest telegram No.875 to you).

2. I therefore suggest that immediate steps be taken to ascertain whether, in fact, Jews in question hold Uruguayan visas, and, if this is confirmed, that urgent representations be made to Uruguayan Government in the same sense as to other Governments concerned in previous cases.

Foreign Office please pass to British Middle East Office Cairo, Jerusalem and Bucharest as my telegrams Nos. 37, unnumbered and 22 respectively.

[Repeated to British Middle East Office Cairo and Bucharest.

Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, for repetition to Jerusalem].

RECEIVED
20 AUG 1947
TELEGRAPH SECTION
COLONIAL OFFICE

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FO 371 / 61821

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E7932/48/31

and closed until... 1998

^{*}delete as necessary

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371

61824

E4937 / G
28 AUG 1947

Palermo
EASTERN

411 1947

9

E4937 / 48 / C

Paducah: Departure of Jewish illegal immigrants from Constantza.

Mr Roberts
Moscow
1926

Dated 24 Aug
Received 28 Aug

Last Paper.

E4933

References.

E4931 / 48 / C
E4929 / 48 / C

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11P 2 Sept
Tel) Moscow 28 Aug
Bucharest 27 Aug
Sofia 1143
28 Aug
8) 11P. 2 Sept

(Minutes.)

Telegram sent to Moscow (confirming name as "PADUCAH") and to Bucharest and Sofia asking if ships whereabouts are yet known.

[Signature] 24/8

See within

1. Bucharest 905

29 Aug.

[Signature] 3/10

(Action completed.)

25³/9

(Index.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

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E 1937 Green 10

28 AUG 1947

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Roberts D. 7.42 a.m. 28th August, 1947
No. 1926
27th August, 1947. R. 10.25 a.m. 28th August, 1947

Repeated to Bucharest
Jerusalem
B.M.E.O. Cairo

0 0 0 0

IMPORTANT

(Foreign Office please pass to Bucharest, Jerusalem and B.M.E.O. Cairo as my telegrams Nos. 23, unnumbered and 38 respectively).

My telegrams Nos. 1907 and 1920.

Departure of Jewish illegal immigrants from Constanza.

I asked Vyshinski today to give urgent consideration to the letter I had sent him yesterday. He replied that he had seen it but had not yet had time to study it.

2. A few hours after my return to the Embassy Vyshinski's secretary rang up on his instructions to say that according to enquiries already made no such ship was now at Constanza and that the Soviet Government had no information about such an arrival. The secretary added that this could be taken as Mr. Vyshinski's reply to my letter which he had sent in this way in view of the urgency of the matter.

3. In the course of conversation Vyshinski agreed with my suggestion that it was in the interest of our two Governments to prevent further trouble between Jews and Arabs in Middle East.

4. Explanation of this rapid comeback may be found in discrepancy between name of ship in your telegram No. 2779 (Paducah) and Bucharest telegram No. 875 (Funducah). I naturally used first in my letter to Vyshinski. If however this was a mistake please telegraph correct name immediately.

[Repeated to Bucharest and B.M.E.O. Cairo. Copies sent to Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

RECEIVED
28 AUG 1947
CENT TO C.S.P.
28 AUG 1947

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No. E7937/48/C

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~~Secret.~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted.~~
~~Open.~~

7937/48/5

11

F. O.,

Despatched 10 28 1947 M.

Draft.

MOSCOW No 2817
BUCHAREST No 573
SOFIA No 1143
Telegram.

Immediate
Confidential

No.
(Date) Aug 28

Repeat to :-

Your telegram no. 1926 [of
27th August: Jewish illegal
immigration]

correct name of ship
is "PADUCAH" repeat "PADUCAH".

2. No confirmation of her
arrival at CONSTANZA has
yet been received.

3. (SOFIA and BUCHAREST
only) Please report urgently
whether "PADUCAH" is whereabouts
are yet known, repeating your
telegram to MOSCOW.

~~En Clair.~~
Code.
Cypher.

Distribution :-

Departmental No. 1

[Signature]
28/8

Copies to :-

I. I. P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 61824

12

E
Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO
MOSCOW No. 2817
BUCHAREST No. 873
SOFIA No. 1143

28th August, 1947. D. 10.28 p.m. 28th August, 1947.

F F F F

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 1926 [of 27th August.
Jewish illegal immigration]

Correct name of ship is "Paducah" (repeat
"Paducah").

2. No confirmation of her arrival at
Constanza has yet been received.

3. (Sofia and Bucharest only) Please report
urgently whether "Paducah"'s whereabouts are yet
known, repeating your telegram to Moscow.

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EY937 13

Cypher OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Holman
No. 905

D. 4.37 p.m. 29th August 1947.

29th August 1947.

R. 7.00 p.m. 29th August 1947.

Repeated to Moscow
Sofia

IMMEDIATE
RESTRICTED

TTTTTT

7991
AUG 1 1947

Your telegram No. 873. Padusah.

Whereabouts of Padusah still unknown to us. As far as we know she has not yet arrived in Roumanian waters. However we know nothing of the activities at Sulina which for some time has been put out of bounds for all foreigners by Soviet authorities.

Handwritten notes and stamps at the bottom of the page.

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EY939 /G

Palestine
EASTERN

413

14

EY939 /48/9

NORTHLANDS: Ref French refusal
to detain her.

Mr Naitu
Bordeaux
57

Rpts Bordeaux 24 to Paris.

Dated 26 Aug
Received 28 Aug.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

EY938

See within

References.

1. Bordeaux 58

27 Aug.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) IIP.
12) Lisbon 515
Madrid 578
29 Aug

Now see Adly. Telegram 282049A
attached. She has actually sailed.
M.I.S think she will go to
Roumania but have no firm grounds
for their belief. In order to avoid
unnecessary telegraphing, I think it
will be best to warn all posts
on the route followed by the
"PADUCAH" and instruct them to take
action as soon as c. in c. Med.
warns them of "NORTHLANDS" approach.
(Lisbon and Madrid warned while awaiting
Adly. concurrence to other telegram)
Admiralty and W.O. have both
agreed. Telegram sent.

8) IIP
12) Rabat 36
Algiers 63
Tunis 47
Rome 1490
Athens 1807
P.I.O.

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25/9

left.

Next Paper.

Adly. informed me that "Northlands" entered
the Dardanelles at 10 o'clock this morning.
/Telegram.

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15 Telegram sent to Angora, Sofia and
Bucharest accordingly. *[Signature]* 12/9

See within
2. Botolcaux 59 *[Signature]*

Angora 61 Saw
Sofia 269 Saw
Bucharest 44 Saw
30 Aug
Rpid Cin c Red
Tripoli
Paris 1708 Saw
Moscow 1006

R) 11P

Tel) Angora 469
Bucharest 933
Sofia 1235
12 Sept
Rpid Moscow 2965
Cin c Red
Paris 1791 Saw

R) 11A

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EY939

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2nd

EY939
26 AUG 1947

16

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No.1

FROM BORDEAUX TO PARIS

Mr Nairn D. Untimed 26th August, 1947.
No. 24
26th August, 1947. R. 6. 05 a.m. 27th August, 1947.

Repeated to Foreign Office No. 57

2 2 2 2

Numbered

My telegram No. 23 about the Northlands.

My Panamanian colleague has informed me that the French authorities have replied that they cannot detain the ship as he requested. He added that the ship has paid a [? omission] and intends to sail tomorrow. I have requested confirmation of the latter statement.

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Cypher/OTP

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E 4939
28 AUG 1947
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 17

FROM BORDEAUX TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Nairn
No. 58.
August 27th, 1947.

D. 6.40.p.m. August 27th, 1947.
R. 8.30.a.m. August 27th, 1947.

Repeated to Paris.

-----OO-----

Illegal Jewish immigration.

I am informed reliably that Northlands^x will leave
Bayonne tonight bound for Genoa. No (repeat no)
passengers have embarked.

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FO 371 / 61824

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f. w.
18
OUT

~~SECRET~~ SECRET

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(*NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

EY929 G

282049A/August.

To: C. in C. Mediterranean.
Info F.O. Gibraltar.

Date: 28.8.47.

SECRETEX

From: Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE

Consul general Bordeaux reports NORTHLANDS sailed at 1300 today 28th ostensibly for Genoa. No passengers on board.

282049A

Duty Commander.

V.C.N.S.
O.D.(8)
D.C.(2)
D.N.I.(5)
M.(8)
R.C.

J.R. 23

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References:- FO 371 / 6182A

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EY939/ 0

19

29 AUG 1947

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

Cypher OTP

FROM BORDEAUX TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Nairn
No. 59

D. 4.45 p.m. 28th August 1947.

28th August 1947.

R. 8.05 p.m. 28th August 1947.

Repeated to Paris

URGENT

TTTTT

My telegram No. 58.

Illegal Jewish Immigration.

Ship left Bayonne at 1300 hours today ostensibly
for Genoa and without any passengers.

RECEIVED
29 AUG 1947
SENT TO L.
29 AUG 1947

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SECRET

OUT

h.w.
20

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(NOTE* : Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad :
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

E7939

291749A/August

To C. in C. Mediterranean
Info. F.O.Gibraltar.

Date 29. 8.47.

SECRETEX

From Admiralty.

IMPORTANT.

Notwithstanding present impossibility of refoulement it is important that NORTHLANDS should be shadowed. It is assumed that the probability of this is one of the reasons why ST. BRIDES BAY has been left at Gibraltar.

2. Foreign Office are giving full particulars of NORTHLANDS to all H.M. Representatives in the Mediterranean and Black Sea countries, including those Consular Officers who are also Naval Reporting Officers and asking that, should the ship put in to their ports, every effort should be made to impede her onward passage. In order that these officers should have as much notice as possible of impending arrival of ship, Foreign Office have asked that you should keep Diplomatic and, where possible, Consular Officers informed of her movements as necessary. It is not repetition not envisaged that all situation reports should be repeated to all these authorities, but that one informatory signal a day might be sent to those to whose countries the ship is nearest. Please confirm that this can be done. Foreign Office would repeat their telegram to you so that you could refer to it in addressing each of the Diplomatic and Consular Authorities concerned.

291749A

for Head of M. (Ext.808)

1st.Lord.
1st.S.I.(3)
W.C.H.S.
A.C.N.S.
Naval Secretary
Secretary
U.S.S.
O.D.(8)
D.C.(2)
M.(10)(and for F.O.etc)
D.N.I.(5)
D.of P.(2)
D.of P.(2)(2)
C.F.I.(2)
D.S.D.(2)

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No. E 7939/48/G

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Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

J.E.C.

Restricted

F. O.,

29/8 1948

Despatched 10 p M.

Draft.

LISBON *NO 515*
MADRID *NO 278*

Immediate
~~*Confidential*~~ *Restricted*

Telegram.

No.

(Date) *Aug 29*

Repeat to :-

*My telegram to Bordeaux
no. 13 [of 22nd July: genuine
illegal immigration]*

*"NORTHLANDS" sailed on
28th August from BAYONNE,
ostensibly for GENOA.*

[Signature]
29/8

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

~~En Clair.~~
Code. R
Cypher.

Distribution :-

Departmental no. 1

Copies to :-

I.I.P.

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22

E7939/48/G
Code R

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO LISBON No. 515
MADRID No. 578

29th August, 1947. D. 10.- p.m. 29th August, 1947.

F F F F

IMMEDIATE
RESTRICTED

My telegram to Bordeaux No. 13 [of 22nd July.
Jewish illegal immigration].

"Northlands" sailed on 28th August from
Bayonne, ostensibly for Genoa.

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Registry
No. E 7939/48/G

Top Secret.
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I.E.C.

XX 23

F.O.,

50/5 194

Despatched 5 15 p M.

Draft.

Immediate
Confidential

Telegram.

No. *[Signature]*
Date *[Signature]*

Repeat to:

To
RABAT (Immediate) No 36
ALGIERS (Inform) No 63
TUNIS No 47
ROME No 1790
ATHENS No 1807
ANGORA (SA) No 61 SA
SOFIA (SA) No 269
BUCHAREST (N) No 77

Repeat to:
C. in C. Med.
TRIPOLI DISTRICT
PALESTINE (SA) No 1708 SAU
MOSCOW (SA) No 606

Code.
Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental No. 4

[Addy }
W.O. } concern

Copies to:—

I. I. P.

Jewish illegal immigration.
S.S. NORTHLANDS. (whose particulars are contained in Weekly List of Suspect Shipping) sailed without (repeat without) passengers on 28th August from BAYONNE, ostensibly for GENOA. While it seems probable that she will follow "PADUCAH's" example and make for Black Sea, she may attempt to embark passengers or refuel elsewhere.
2. We hope she will be shadowed from GIBRALTAR onwards and ~~case~~ Admiralty are asking c. in c. Med. if he can keep H.M. Representatives (except those at MOSCOW, SOFIA and BUCHAREST) informed of her movements, as ~~necessary~~ required.
3. If reports received from c. in c. Med. suggest that "NORTHLANDS" may call at a port within your jurisdiction, you should request local authorities to take precautions

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3148 Wt. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:-
FO 371
61824

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24 precautions against embarkation
of Jewish & illegal immigrants
and to detain ship and
deny her facilities.

[Signature]
30/8

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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green 25

E 7989/48/G
Confidential

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO HIS MAJESTY'S REPRESENTATIVES AT:

<u>RABAT</u>	No. 86	Immediate
<u>ALGIERS</u>	No. 63	Important
<u>TUNIS</u>	No. 47	
<u>ROME</u>	No. 1790	
<u>ATHENS</u>	No. 1807	
<u>SOBATA</u>	No. 61	Saving
<u>SOBATA</u>	No. 269	Saving
<u>BUCHAREST</u>	No. 77	Saving

30th August, 1947. D. 5.15 p.m. 30th August, 1947.

Repeated to C.-in-C. Mediterranean
Tripoli District
Paris No. 1708 Saving
Moscow No. 606 Saving

///

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

Jewish illegal immigration.

S.S. Northlands (whose particulars are contained in Weekly List of Suspect Shipping) sailed without (repeat without) passengers on 28th August from Bayonne, ostensibly for Genoa. While it seems probable that she will follow "Paducah's" example and make for Black Sea, she may attempt to embark passengers or refuel elsewhere.

2. We hope she will be shadowed from Gibraltar onwards and Admiralty are asking C.-in-C. Mediterranean if he can keep His Majesty's Representatives (except those at Moscow, Sofia and Bucharest) informed of her movements, as required.

5. If reports received from C.-in-C. Mediterranean suggest that "Northlands" may call at a port within your jurisdiction, you should request local authorities to take precautions against embarkation of Jewish illegal immigrants and to detain ship and deny her facilities.

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 61824

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 W.P. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Registry No. E7939/48/G

J.E.C.

Top Secret.
 Secret.
 Confidential.
 Restricted.
 Open.

F.O.,

Despatched 4.30 P.M.

Draft.
 ANGORA No - 749
 BUCHAREST No - 933
 SOFIA No - 123

En clair

Telegram.

(Date) Sept 12

Repeat to:-

Moscow No - 2905
 C. & M. Med.
 Paris (Jury) No - 1791 (S)

En Clair.
 Code.
 Cypher.

Distribution:-

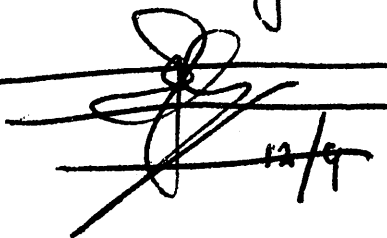
Departmental NO.1

Copies to:-

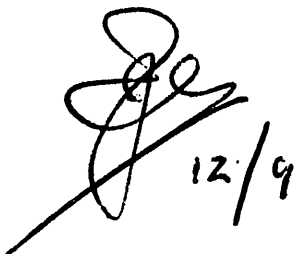
I.I.P.

My telegram to RABAT no.
 36 [of 30th August: Jewish illegal immigration]

~~Ship's position at 0600 hrs
 12th September was 39 degrees
 38 minutes NORTH, 25 degrees 50
 minutes EAST, heading NNE at
 8 knots.~~


 12/9

Ship entered Dardanelles
 at 1000 hours 12th September.


 12/9

26

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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File 27

No. E 7959/48/G.

Restricted.

EN CLAIR

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO HIS MAJESTY'S

REPRESENTATIVES AT:-

ANGORA. NO. 769;

BUCHAREST. NO. 935;

SOFIA. NO. 1235.

12th September 1947. D. 4.30 p.m. 12th September 1947.

Repeated to: Moscow, No. 2965;
Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean;
Paris, No. 1791 Saving.

W:W:W:W:W

My telegram to Rabat No. 36 [of 30th August:
Jewish illegal immigration].

Ship entered Dardanelles at 1000 hours
12th September.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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1947

E

E 7942

28

29 AUG 1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

E 7942/48/31
Rev. J. Weintrob
Migrachi Federation
Aug 27.
29

Resolution re Jews at Port de Bone.
Encloses list of resolution passed at emergency meeting of Federation
Appearing on behalf of the Jews ex "President Warfield"

Last Paper

7939

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

~~xxxx~~
sent to J. Weintrob
~~sent~~
sent

(Action completed)

(Index)

G. L. 10/9
20/9/47

Next Paper

7962

(Minutes.)

Palmer
(C.S.E. TABLE)
29/8

It has been decided not to reply to Jewish organizations.

de
9/9

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 61822

The Land of Israel, for the People of Israel,
according to the Torah of Israel.

ארץ ישראל לעם ישראל
על פי תורת ישראל

29

מרכז הסתדרויות המזרחי בבריטניה הגדולה ואירלנדיא

Mizrachi Federation of Gt. Britain and Ireland

Telephone: GERrard 4692/6.
Cable Address: Mizrachi, London.

General Secretary:
BARRY MINDEL, B.Com.

ALBANY MANSION,
87, CHARING CROSS ROAD,
LONDON, W.C.2.

ב'ה
August 27th 1947.

The Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
The Foreign Secretary,
The Foreign Office,
Whitehall,
LONDON, S. W. 1.

E 7942

29 AUG 1947

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to submit for your earnest consideration the enclosed text of a resolution passed this afternoon at an emergency meeting of the Executive of the Mizrachi Federation.

We implore you to give the resolution your most careful consideration and to do everything possible to come to the aid of the unfortunate refugees who tried to reach the shores of their Homeland on the "Exodus 1947".

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. Weintrobe.

Rev. J. Weintrobe.

Acting Secretary on behalf
of Political Committee.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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the Land of Israel, for the People of Israel
according to the Torah of Israel.

ארץ ישראל לעם ישראל
על פי תורת ישראל

מרכז הסתדרויות המזרחי בבריטניה והגדולה ואירלנד

Mizrachi Federation of Gt. Britain & Ireland

Telephone: GERrard 4692/6
Cable Address: Mizrachi, London

ALBANY MANSION,
87 CHARING CROSS ROAD,
LONDON, W.C.2

General Secretary: Barry Mindel, B.Com.

ב"ה

RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE MIZRACHI FEDERATION
ON TUESDAY, 26TH AUGUST, 1947.

WE, THE MIZRACHI AND HAPOEL HAMIZRACHI MOVEMENTS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND EIRE, IN THE NAME OF ALL RELIGIOUS ZIONISTS, ARE AT ONE WITH THE YISHUV AND THE WHOLE HOUSE OF ISRAEL IN VOICING OUR MOST VIGOROUS PROTEST AGAINST THE BRUTAL AND INHUMAN ACT OF H.M. GOVERNMENT IN FORCIBLY TRANSPORTING THE 4,500 "EXODUS" JEWS, MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN, TO GERMANY, THE COUNTRY WHICH INSTIGATED AND EXECUTED THE GREATEST CRIMES AND OUTRAGES AGAINST THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND THE WORLD AT LARGE. WE REGARD SUCH A POLICY AS A SIN AGAINST G-D AND A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY.

WE MAKE THIS LAST-MINUTE APPEAL TO H.M. GOVERNMENT, "DO NOT PLAY AT POLITICS WITH THE REMNANTS OF ISRAEL. PUT AN END TO THE ILLEGAL POLICY OF BARRING JEWS FROM THEIR HOMELAND, WHICH HAS INEVITABLY LED YOU TO COURSES OF INHUMANITY AND BRUTALITY, SO OUT OF KEEPING WITH THE TRADITIONAL CHARACTER OF THE BRITISH PEOPLE."

AS ALWAYS IN TIMES OF DISTRESS, WE TURN IN PRAYER TO G-D THAT HE MAY UPHOLD THE COURAGE AND STEADFASTNESS OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS FROM THE "EXODUS", SPARE THEM FURTHER ILL-TREATMENT AND SUFFERING, MAKE WISE COUNSELS PREVAIL, AND BRING THEM SPEEDILY TO THEIR PROMISED HOMELAND.

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EY962 / G
29 AUG 1947

Palestine

EASTERN

31

414

31

EY962 148 19

"Pan Crescent"

Trieste
243

Rpts Trieste 128 to Rome.

Dated 24 Aug
Received 29 Aug

Last Paper.

EY939

References.

EY404/48/G.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11P ✓ 2 Sep

(Action completed.)

25 4/9

(Index.)

164

Next Paper.

(Minutes.)

The attached W.O. telegram DTO 281645 shows that arrangements have been made at least to detain ship temporarily at Trieste. We have still heard nothing from Rome to say what they are doing to prevent her leaving Venice, if she is still there.

J. Able
(S.E. CABLE)
29/8

Agreed with Brig. Dave and Comdr. Overhead that we should leave it at that for the present.

JB Aug 29

1. HoF + Command 89 Fuel

2. W.O. command 94618

28 Aug
20 Aug.

J. Able
20/9

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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Cypher/GTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

32

FROM TRIESTE TO ROME

EY962

(From Office of the Political Adviser)

29 AUG 1947

His Majesty's Consul General
No. 128

D. 12.15 p.m. 27th August, 1947.
R. 5.10 p.m. 27th August, 1947.

27th August, 1947.

Repeated to Foreign Office No. 245
Milan

///

Foreign Office telegram No. 1765 to you.

Vessel is reported to be still at Venice. Date of sailing postponed to August 29th. Ship may sail for Trieste probably to load stores. Master who is a Triestini of Slovene origin with a past as a pro-German collaborationist is understood to be unwilling to proceed with journey and intends deserting at Constantza.

2. British Naval and Military authorities here are well informed of ship's intended movements.

Foreign Office please repeat to Milan as my telegram No. 2.

[Repeated to Milan.]

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Reference:-

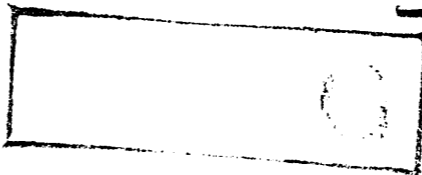
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RECEIVED
20 AUG 1947
SENT TO DEPT.
20 AUG 1947

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

f.u.e.
33



Cypher/OTP

F U E L.

FROM MINISTRY OF FUEL & POWER TO WASHINGTON.

No. 89 Fuel

28th August 1947. D. 8.35 p.m. 28th August 1947.

V V V

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Vessel Pan Crescent expected to arrive Alexandria within next few days is strongly suspected of being engaged in illegal immigration. It is highly important that bunkers be withheld from this ship. Suggest you request Socony and Caltex to refuse bunkers if approached.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 6182A

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ONE TIME PAD

p.w.
34

FROM: War Office
TO : GHQ CMF
INFO: Tac GHQ CMF

DTO 281645 A/Aug

Desp 28 Aug 47

Reference COS 549. SECRET 94618 (MO4)

Personal for C of S from GOC.

ONE. Pan Crescent. Have discussed with War Office who are considering matter. Meanwhile confirm you should take no action other than insisting that letter and spirit of all maritime, port, medical and any other relevant laws are enforced by AMG through civil police before persons allowed to embark or ship given clearance. Have NOT been able to see copy of Foreign Office signal to ROME 1763 of 25 Aug but understand ship is not expected to embark Jews in TRIESTE but is coming to refit, in particular to take in beds and bedding. For your information she is owned by American Jews and Panama register. As she is believed to be proceeding to Black Sea to pick up seven thousand Jews our object should be to delay refit and make as difficult as possible without causing trouble with Americans.

TWO. Your Tac GHQ Signal No 96 answered separately.

Message Control.
Message Control.

MOST IMMEDIATE

Copies to:-
CIGS
VCIGS
DMO
DDMO(A)
MO 1, 3, 4
DMI
MI 1, 3, 4
Foreign Office (Mr Beith)
Colonial Office (Mr Trafford Smith)
Cabinet Offices (Commander Evershed)
Admiralty (Mr Dodds)
Ministry of Transport (Mr Graham)
MI 5 (Mr J.C. Roberts).

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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<p>415 1947 31</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E 7963 / G</p> <p>29 AUG 1947</p> <p>35</p>
<p>E 7963/48/G</p> <p>COB (47) 110th HQ</p> <p>Fin 12</p> <p>Dated 21 Aug</p> <p>Received 29 Aug.</p>	<p>Palestine: Provision of naval escorts for illegal immigrant ships</p> <p>COB (47) 172 (0)</p>	
<p>Last Paper</p> <p>E 7962</p>	<p>(Minutes)</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 30/8</p>	
<p>References</p>		
<p>(Print)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of)</p>		
<p>(Action completed)</p> <p>25/9</p>	<p>(Index)</p> <p>6/4.</p>	
<p>Next Paper</p>		

33744

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61821

29 AUG 1947

C.O.S(47) 110^E mlg

EY963

25 Aug 1947

*12.
H.*

PALESTINE - PROVISION OF NAVAL ESCORTS FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT SHIPS

36

C.O.S.(47) 172 (0) *attached*

Under rept

THE COMMITTEE took note of a Note by the Admiralty stating that they did not wish to raise again at the present time, the question of merchant ships carrying illegal immigrants from Haifa to Cyprus sailing without naval escorts, but that it might be necessary to do so at a later stage, if future developments rendered this necessary.

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FO 371 / 61824

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37

Unless the Secretary is informed by 12 noon Monday, 25th August that other action is required, it is suggested that it should be recorded in the minutes of the meeting to be held on Monday, 25th August, 1947 that the Chiefs of Staff have taken note of the attached paper.

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FO 371 / 61824

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The circulation of this paper has been strictly limited.

It is issued for the personal use of S/S Foreign Affairs.

38

TOP SECRET

Copy No. 59

C.O.S.(47)172(0)

21ST AUGUST, 1947.

CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

PALESTINE - PROVISION OF NAVAL ESCORTS
FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT SHIPS

Note by the Admiralty.

At C.O.S.(47)25th Meeting, Item 4, the Admiralty was invited to review in six months' time the suggestion that in certain circumstances the merchant ships used to carry illegal immigrants from Haifa to Cyprus might be sailed without Naval escort.

2. The Admiralty does not wish to raise this question again at the present time, but it may be necessary to do so at a later stage, if future developments render this necessary.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, S.W.1.,

21ST AUGUST, 1947.

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FO 371 / 61824

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<p>1947</p> <p>416 31</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>EY964 /G</p> <p>23 AUG 1947</p> <p>39</p>
<p>EY964/48/9</p> <p>F.O. Min H+ Cable</p> <p>Dated 25 Aug Received 29 Aug</p>	<p>Principle of Movement: Delegation of World Jewish Congress.</p>	
<p>Last Paper</p> <p>EY963</p>	<p>(Minutes)</p> <p>See minutes within <i>J.P.</i> 30/8</p>	
<p>References</p>		
<p>(Print)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of)</p>		
<p>(Action completed)</p> <p>25/9</p>	<p>(Index)</p> <p>62 H.</p>	
<p>Next Paper</p>		

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 6182A

Registry
No. E

J.E.C.

Draft.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Mr. Easterman.

From:
Mr. Mayhew.

*Mr McDoway
by S. Beist
Aug 25*

*For your confidential information,
H.M.G. reserve the right to return to the country of embarkation any illegal immigrants who may reach Palestine waters. But whether they do so in any given case depends on many factors such as*

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

August, 1947.

40

Dear Mr. Easterman,

At our meeting on the 22nd August I promised to write you a letter explaining why the 1,100 Jewish illegal immigrants, who reached Palestine on board the two ships "Bruna" and "Luciano" after the "President Warfield"'s passengers had been returned to France, were sent to Cyprus instead of being returned to their country of origin.

~~While H.M.G. do not feel that they are called upon to explain their motives in every case, I have no objection to giving this information in the present instance. When these two ships reached Palestine, H.M.G. had no evidence to show where they had embarked their passengers. Since the country of their embarkation was unknown, they could obviously not be returned to it and were therefore sent to Cyprus instead.~~

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Reference:-

EO 371 / 61824

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41 as the shipping available for
 the haul and the circumstances
 in which the illegal immigrants
 left the country of embarkation.
 these factors have to be
 weighed up on each occasion
 and I am sure you
 will understand that
 the exact reasons for the
 eventual decision are secret.
 Abstractly correct

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

29 AUG 1947

Minutes.

EY 964

enclab

29 AUG 1947

Jewish Illegal Immigration

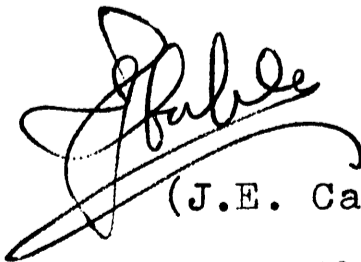
42

I understand that the World Jewish Congress, which sent a Delegation to see Mr. Mayhew on the 22nd August, made great play with our apparent inconsistency in applying the principle of refoulement to the "President Warfield" 's passengers but not to those arriving on later ships. Mr. Mayhew promised to send Mr. Easterman a letter explaining our reasons for sending to Cyprus the 1,100 Jewish illegal immigrants who reached Palestine on board the "Baruna" and "Lucciano" after the refoulement to France of those who had arrived on board the "President Warfield".

2. There were two reasons for this step:

- (a) We did not know (and still do not know) their point of embarkation.
- (b) Even if we had known where to send them, we lacked ships to carry out this operation. The departure of the three ships carrying the "President Warfield" 's passengers had deprived the Government of Palestine of the only ships large enough to undertake a voyage of more than 24 hours duration. It was impossible to obtain other ships in time, since any ships used for carrying Jewish illegal immigrants must be specially fitted in order to guard against sabotage, a process which takes approximately six weeks.

3. These two reasons have never been officially stated, since we felt that to reveal the first might encourage foreign Governments, to whose countries we might in future wish to return illegal immigrants, to quibble over the evidence of their embarkation; while to reveal the second would obviously assist the organisers of this traffic to frustrate our policy. Both reasons have, however, been given unofficially in an article in the "Manchester Guardian". The source of their information is not known, but is believed to be mainly intelligent guess-work. As the World Jewish Congress have been promised an explanation, we must obviously give them some reason for our action. I suggest that we give only the first of these two reasons, which is conclusive in itself and less liable to assist the organisers of the traffic. I submit draft letter accordingly.



(J.E. Cable)

25th August, 1947.

I understand that Mr
Mayhew

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FO 371 / 61824

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43

Mayhew wishes to ~~write~~ sign a letter of explanation on these lines. I don't very much like it, for the reasons given by Mr Cable.

It will encourage the organisers of the traffic to think that, if they can push out the ships unobserved, we will be prevented from exercising our right of "refoulement". I have amended the draft.

D. S. Beins
Aug 25

No action.

CRM.
28/8.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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<p>NY 1947</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>EY965/G</p> <p>29 AUG 1947</p>
<p>EY965/48/C</p> <p>F.O. Min Mr Makins</p> <p>Dated 26 Aug Received 29 Aug.</p>	<p>Effect in U.S.A of British decision to send President Warfield news to Germany</p> <p>Conversation with Mr Coe, U.S. Emb</p>	
<p>Last Paper</p> <p>EY964</p>	<p>(Minutes)</p> <p><i>Jubel</i> (T.E. CABLE)</p>	
<p>References</p>	<p>In minutes with, and 30/8 attached record of second conversation. H.B. 30/8</p>	
<p>(Print)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of)</p>		
<p>(Action completed)</p> <p>25/9</p>	<p>(Index)</p> <p><i>W.H.</i></p>	
<p>Next Paper</p> <p>(C8050)</p>		

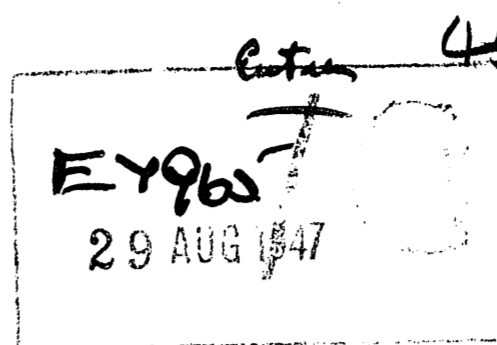
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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

29 AUG 1947



Mr. Robert Coe, the Acting Counsellor at the United States Embassy, called at the Ambassador's request to-day to renew the Embassy's representations in regard to the return of the Jews ex the President Warfield to Hamburg, and said that the Embassy had received a further telegram from the State Department reiterating their view that if this operation was allowed to proceed it would have a very deleterious effect on British prestige in the United States. The State Department had enquired whether there was no other British territory to which the refugees could be sent, instancing Malta and Gibraltar. Secondly, he said that Jewish organisations would be prepared to put up the money for the maintenance of this party in any foreign country other than Germany. Finally Mr. Coe suggested that it might be possible to make another attempt to land them either at Brest or at Antwerp.

I told Mr. Coe that a thorough survey had been made of possibilities in the Colonial Empire before the decision had been taken to send them back to Germany. There was no other place available in British-controlled territory. Secondly I did not think it was likely that the Jews would disembark at Brest, having refused to do so in Southern France, and I saw little prospect for Antwerp, which would involve negotiations with the Belgian Government. We did not want to send these Jews back to Germany, but as they had declined to land in France they were going by their own choice. Mr. Coe said the State Department were afraid of disorders at Hamburg in getting these Jews off the ships. I said I had no doubt that the British authorities had taken all possible measures to prevent this. Finally I said that we realised that our action would cause a very unfavourable reaction in some parts

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46

of the United States, but we would have to face this. We were determined to put a stop to this illegal traffic.

I undertook, however, to have the matter looked at again in the light of these latest representations.

(Roger Makins)
26th August, 1947

The inevitability of adverse reactions in the United States was in the mind of all concerned throughout. The S of S decided nonetheless to take and adhere to the decision to send the Jews to the British zone. There can be no question now of going back on this

mtls
26.8

per ~~Scott Fox~~ ^{Jarvis} 28/8

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61821

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1947

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E 7999

PALESTINE

SEP

47

Registry Number

E7999/48/31

TELEGRAM FROM

U.K. NO.

No.

New York

Dated

12th S.

Received in Registry

27 Aug
7 Sept

Illegal Immigration, Replies to note by Sec Gen

Refers New York tel 102 (Savoy) E6795/48/31

Gives substance of further acknowledgements.

Last Paper.

7965

(Minutes.)

References.

Information Policy Dept. 20.8.49
U.N. (Pol.) Dept. 21.5.49
Northern Dept.

y/llw/9

[Signature]
V.S. E. CABLE
1/9

JB Sept. 1

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed)

[Signature]
26/9/49

(Index completed)

[Signature]
26/9/49

Next Paper.

8002

32003 F.O.P.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 6182A

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E 48

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

En Clair

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No.124 Saving

27th August, 1947 R. 3.50 p.m. 30th August, 1947

Repeated to Washington No.2188 Saving
Jerusalem No.2 Saving

E 7999

SEP

GIANT

My telegram No.102 Saving [of July 25th].

Palestine Immigration.

Following is substance of further acknowledgements.

2. Cuba, Salvador and Netherlands make no comment. India promises a further communication as soon as possible. Iceland expresses full agreement but observes that problem involved will not arise there.

3. Bolivia and Philippines undertake to give our request careful consideration. Brazil promises "strict observance of commitments to the General Assembly". Yugoslavia states that no special measures have been necessary since there has been no instance of illegal immigrants passing through Yugoslavia on the way to Palestine.

4. Danish reply is as follows. Begins.

To the knowledge of the Danish Government, hitherto only one case of this kind has occurred in Denmark. The case in question was that of a foreign vessel, S/S "San Eusebio", which since last winter has been in the port of Copenhagen. The British Embassy here asked for the assistance of the Danish Government in preventing her departure on the grounds that the Embassy had reason to believe that the ship was engaged or likely to be engaged in the transport of illegal immigrants to Palestine. The vessel was hereafter inspected by the Government Surveyor. As this inspection showed that the ship was not provided with certificate of nationality, trading certificate or loadline certificate, the surveyor ordered the detention of the ship. The Danish Government are willing, should similar cases occur in future, to take such precautions to prevent illegal transport of Jewish immigrants as they are able to under the existing legislation. In the same way the Danish Alien Control will take such measures as the legislation permits to prevent the illegal transit of Jews to Palestine.

[Ends].

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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216

1947

E

E 8002

SEP

PALESTINE

49

Registry
Number

E8002/48/31

FROM

Chamney

No.

Washington

Dated

200/316/47

Received
in Registry

Aug 26
Sept 1

Protests at various to seat Jews to Germany.
Encloses copy of letter sent to President Truman
by Rabbi Wise urging intervention on his
part to prevent H.M.G. from sending Jews
into Germany. Give various other instances
of appeals to U.S. Govt.

Last Paper

7999

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

S.P.O.
Sept 6

(Action
completed)

G.E.M. 9/9

(Index)

20/11/48

Next Paper

8017

(Minutes.)

copy to C.O.

N.A. Dept. 5/9

J. Cable
(J.E.CABLE)
5/9

The Embassy are taking this with
commendable calm.

JB Sept 5

1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference:-

FO 371 / 6182A

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BRITISH EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

August 26th, 1947.

Ref. 200/356/47

E 8002

SEP

Dear Department,

The decision to send the illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield" to the British Zone in Germany has naturally already caused strong protests from the Zionists. Rabbi Wise has sent a telegram to the President, of which a copy is enclosed, as, according to the press, has Louis Lipsky, Chairman of the American Jewish Conference. Lipsky's telegram said that the decision was likely to have grave repercussions in Palestine. It was also likely to strengthen further anti-Semitism in Germany and to prevent the execution of United States policy in re-educating the Germans. A statement was also issued by the American Jewish Committee condemning such a decision and stating that, at a time when the United Nations' Special Committee's report was awaited, this "reprisal" was likely to play into the hands of the terrorists.

2. Appeals for United States intervention addressed to the President or Marshall were also sent by the American Trades Union Council for Labour Palestine, by the B'nai B'rith and by Victor Bernstein in a leading article in P.M. In addition, Mr. Truman is reported to have received an appeal from the illegal immigrants themselves. Bartley Crum, a member of the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry, is reported to have addressed a telegram to Marshall saying that the decision was a clear violation of the Potsdam Agreement and an affront to humanity and that the United States was now in a strong position to enforce British adherence to freely assumed obligations.

/3.

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference:-

FO 371

61824

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51

2.

3. P.M. of August 25th contained the enclosed advertisement by the Palestine Resistance Fund and also an announcement that His Majesty's Consulate-General in New York would be picketed by the Labour Zionist Organisation of America, the Jewish National Workers Alliance, the Pioneer Women's Organisation and the Labour Zionist Youth. A two hour stoppage of work was urged for this purpose.

4. A certain number of telegrams of protest have been received by us and there will no doubt be others over the next few days. We understand that the State Department are receiving quite a large number. They continue to be somewhat concerned about the effect on public opinion here of sending these people to Germany.

5. We are sending a copy of this letter to the High Commissioner at Jerusalem.

Yours ever,
 CHANCERY.



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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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C
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52

Telegram New York, N.Y.,
August 21st, 1947.

His Excellency Lord Inverchapel,
United Kingdom Ambassador to the United States,
United Kingdom Embassy.

Following is copy of my telegram addressed today
to the President of the United States:

"I urge that you make known to Messrs. Attlee and Bevin and to the special emissaries of the British Government now in Washington how abhorrent is their country's conduct in preparing to send 4500 Jewish men and women, against their will, back to Germany. It will be the deepest humiliation to all Jews to doom these people to exist again in Germany which slaughtered their six million fellow-Jews. As an American Jew and supporter, with your approval, of our country's loan to Britain last year, I most earnestly request you to protest in the name of the American people against the inhuman cruelty of this deed. It is unthinkable that Britain, again seeking our country's financial aid, should commit the moral crime of sending Jews, who were about to enter Palestine, back to Hitler's Germany. I ask you to make unmistakably clear to the British Government that these refugees must immediately be admitted to Palestine and thus become the first contingent of the 100,000 displaced persons upon whose admission to Palestine, you have, Mr. President, most urgently and repeatedly insisted."

Stephen S. Wise, President,
American and World Jewish Congress.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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Which will save the Exodus captives— FAST—OR FIGHT?

You may fast from now till doomsday, and you will not bring the Exodus captives back to Palestine.

The 4500 Exodus captives fought with the only weapon they had – a hunger-strike – but they are nonetheless being deported to the bloody soil of Naziland.

Their fasting didn't save them. Your fasting won't save them. The Fighting Resistance in Palestine will.

A British statesman told the UN committee that it is getting too expensive for Britain in Palestine – the casualty lists are too long.

The Hebrew fighter, backed by American support – your support, not your protests – can finish the job of ousting the British invader.

Is this a day for fasting? Or is it a day for action?

You may fast from now till doomsday, and you won't save the Exodus captives. But the Fighting Resistance will.

You may fast from now till doomsday, and you won't drive the British invader out of Palestine. But the Fighting Resistance will.

Only the heroic battle in Palestine will decide the issue. Be you Christian or Jew, be you a veteran, the parent of a boy or girl, a rich man or a laborer—you have a stake in Palestine. The Fighting Resistance is holding the front line for all. \$500 will buy a surgical kit. \$25 will buy clothing for a fighter or someone in his family. Your money is nourishment, plasma, and survival. Send in your check today for the liberation and dignity of the Hebrew Nation.

PALESTINE RESISTANCE FUND

53 East 77th Street, New York 21, N. Y. • BRYant 9-4514

(Upon request, literature and latest information regarding the Hebrew Resistance will be sent free to contributors by the American League for a Free Palestine, Inc.)

Stella Adler • Konrad Bercovici • Louis Bromfield • Russel Gordon Carter • Lester Cohen
 • Alan Corelli • Mordecai Danzic • Paul Eldridge • Frances Gunther • Ben Hecht •
 Nathan George Horwitt • Prof. Constantine Panunzio • Will Rogers, Jr. • Andrew L.
 Somers, M.C. • Arthur Szyk • Alex Wilf • Isaac Zaar • and others.



A CHANCE TO WIN!

PALESTINE RESISTANCE FUND PM-7
 53 East 77th Street, New York 21, N. Y.

Enclosed is my contribution in the sum of \$.....
 to speed medical relief and humanitarian aid to the
 Palestine Resistance Fighters.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Please make checks payable to FRANCES GUNTHER, Treas.

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 Reference: FO 371 / 61824

THE WORLD

Tsaldaris Offers To Share Cabinet With Liberals

By Associated Press

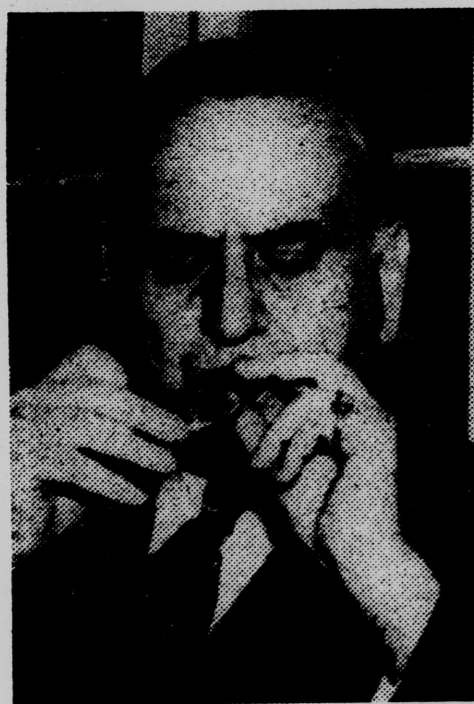
ATHENS
Premier-designate Constantin Tsaldaris has offered the Liberal Party of Themistokles Sophoulis "equality" in a new two-party government for Greece, informed sources report, but it is believed the 86-year-old Liberal leader will decline.

(According to United Press, Tsaldaris said he had failed to persuade Sophoulis to bring his faction of the Liberal Party—not represented in the previous cabinet—into the Government.)

King Paul instructed Tsaldaris to form a new government within a few hours after an internal dispute caused the collapse of the government of Royalist Premier Demetrios Maximos, whose cabinet disagreed over the effectiveness of rightist measures against Communist-led guerillas.

Sophoulis appeared likely to demand the premiership for himself and blanket adoption of Liberal Party policies as his price for participating in a new government.

Neither of these conditions



Constantin Tsaldaris

would be acceptable to Tsaldaris' Populist (Royalist) Party.

Coalition Would Have Majority

Tsaldaris' proposal for a government by the two parties farthest apart in Parliament, the Populists and the Sophoulis Liberals, was regarded as the greatest concession the Populists have made since they received a majority in the March, 1946, elections. Such a coalition would control 189 of Parliament's 354 votes—a majority of 11.

Reliable sources said that the three center party leaders, Sophocles Venizelos, Panayotis Kanellopoulos and George Papandreou, whose resignations Saturday precipitated the government crisis, were not likely to be asked to join in the new government.

Napoleon Zervas To Be Excluded?

(UP said observers believed Minister of Public Order Gen. Napoleon Zervas might be omitted from a new government as a compromise measure, in view of Venizelos' allegation that America might cut off shipments of arms, ammunition and uniforms if Zervas stayed on.)

Sophoulis' demand for his party's complete control of the government appeared unlikely to win American support. One ranking American official, who asked that his name not be used, said:

"We cannot support the minority Liberal Party seeking to gain control of the Greek Government any more than we could support a minority Communist seizure of control."

He said that the Embassy considered Tsaldaris' offer to Sophoulis "eminently fair" and that Sophoulis' failure to accept would put the Liberal leader in the position of placing personal ambition above the country's welfare.

Bulgaria May Reinforce Border

By United Press

PRAGUE
The official Yugoslav news agency Tanjug, in a Sofia dispatch, reports that Bulgaria has issued a communique "in connection with latest Greek provocations" which said the Government "considers . . . sending considerable troops" to Greek frontier regions.

The communique, according to Tanjug, charged that on Aug. 22 Greek patrols fired on Bulgarian frontier posts and on a Bulgarian plane. In addition, the communique said Greek military units were being reinforced and trenches dug "in advanced positions" near Digme station in Greece.

Tanjung said that "bearing in mind former provocations by Greek

troops—the communique states—the Bulgarian government considers . . . sending of considerable troops and has informed the Allied Control Commission (in Sofia) and the (United Nations) Security Council on this."

Petkov Appealing

By Associated Press

SOFIA
An attorney for Nikola Petkov says the doomed opposition leader had signed an appeal for presentation to Bulgaria's supreme court today.

Petkov, 54, is under death sentence as a convicted conspirator against the Communist-led Fatherland Front Government.

The U. S. A. and Britain last



This is what Jogjakarta capital of the Republic of Indonesia looks like. Business as usual with pedestrians and vehicles moving along Malioboro Street.

Associated Press Photos

Russians Free 3 GIs in Korea

By Associated Press

SEOUL
Three teen-aged American Army enlisted men, held by the Russians in northern Korea since Aug. 12, were released unharmed Sunday and brought to Seoul for questioning by U. S. Intelligence Headquarters, an Intelligence officer announced. A news conference with the men was promised for today. (UP said the Army announced they were "in excellent shape.")

The trio was handed over to an American officer at the exact spot where the Russians apprehended them when they strayed over the 38th parallel which divides the Soviet and American occupation zones of Korea.

The three men were T-5 Tommy F. Pugsley of Renton, Wash.; and PFCs John D. of Seattle and Gerald K. Geffen of Port Chester, N. Y.

At the time the Russians seized them, they were detailed to inspect the telephone line running from Seoul to Russian headquarters at Pyongyang. It was in the daytime, and the men were in uniform. South Korean police who witnessed the incident said one of the Americans had a camera.

Belgium Challenges UN's Right in Indonesia

By Associated Press

LAKE SUCCESS
Belgium has moved to test the right of the UN Security Council to act in East Indies hostilities where, delegates now generally agree, the UN cease-fire order to the Dutch and Indonesians has been ineffective.

With the Council split three ways over how to proceed in view of continued reports of fighting, the Netherlands' neighbor stepped in with a resolution proposing that the International Court of Justice be asked to rule on the jurisdictional right of the UN to take any action.

The Belgian move supports Dutch contentions that the dispute is an internal affair and no business of the UN.

U. S. A. Pressing for Cease-Fire Watch

There are indications that the U. S. A. will press for immediate Council supervision of the cease-fire order voted Aug. 1. An American spokesman said the U. S. delegation would ask for a vote this afternoon. He added that the U. S. A. wants to stop the fighting first and then proceed to the matter of mediation.

Russia insists that the Council should set up commissions of investigation and arbitration without delay. She opposes any reference to the World Court as a delaying maneuver.

There is a possibility the U. S. A. may accept the Belgian move should the council first agree to make an on-the-spot check of the situation.

Dutch Seize Airfield

By Associated Press

BATAVIA
An Indonesian Army communique says Dutch infantry with tank and air support has captured strategic Boegis airfield about six miles northeast of Malang in East-ern Java.

Communiques from both Indonesian and Netherlands military

headquarters told of continued fighting, and Lt. Gen. Oerip Soemhardjo, Chief of Staff for the Indonesian Army, declared in a broadcast from Jogjakarta that "there is not a single point which could be used as a basis for co-operation" between the Dutch and Indonesians.

"Defend your freedom," he instructed the Indonesians.

In addition to taking Boegis airfield a strong Dutch force is fighting for Tengkil Airfield, another Indonesian bulletin said.

'Pravda' Warns Iran on Oil Deal

By Associated Press

MOSCOW
Pravda says that Premier Ahmad Ghavam of Iran is trying to break the Soviet-Iranian oil agreement, and warned him against following "that dangerous road."

(The pact, reached in 1946 while Russian troops were in Iran, would make Russia the majority stockholder for 25 years in a Russian-Iranian oil company. The new Iranian parliament must ratify the agreement to make it effective. There have been reports of strong opposition among the legislators.)

Pravda, official newspaper of the Communist Party, said Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi and Premier Ghavam were "preparing to violate" their obligations.

Pravda said the campaign against the Soviet-Iranian agreement was "dictated by certain foreign circles." It added that "whether government circles in Iran go further on their dangerous road will be shown in the nearest future."

New U. S. Envoy Talks To Tito for An Hour

By Associated Press

BELGRADE
Cavendish Cannon, new U. S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia, paid his first official visit Saturday to Marshal Tito in Zagreb. They spent an hour talking in German without an interpreter.

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Reference: FO 371/6182A

1947

Palestine
EASTERN

E8017 /G

= 1 SEP 1947

55

31
E8017/48/C

French reception of President
Worfield news

Lord Sverchop
W'ton
4444

Dated 30 Aug
Received 1 Sep

Last Paper.

E7965

(Minutes.)

D.S. Deir
Sept. 2

JB Sept. 4

References.

E7938/48/C

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11P ✓ 2 Sep

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

DF 9/9

W.P.

Next Paper.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

E 8017

56

1 SEP 1947

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on.]

Cypher/OTP. CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Lord Inverchapel. D. 3.55 p.m. 30th August, 1947.
No. 4777

30th August, 1947. R. 9.21 p.m. 30th August, 1947.

Repeated to Paris,
Jerusalem.

IMPORTANT.

- - - - -
E
- - - - -

Your telegram No. 8845. Jewish illegal immigration.

Balfour spoke to Acting Director of Near Eastern and African Office of State Department in accordance with your instructions. Latter has just given us message from Lovett to the effect that instructions have been sent to the United States Ambassador in Paris to inform the French Government that the United States Government would appreciate anything they can do to ease the situation.

2. Mr. Lovett had not felt able to go quite so far as you desired, but he hoped that these instructions would be of assistance.

Foreign Office please repeat important to Paris as my telegram No. 201.

[Repeated to Paris]

SEP 1 1947

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

Palestine

E8033 /G

EASTERN

418

1947

E8033/48/C

Suspect shipping

57

Mr. Harrison
Brussels

weekly file Sept -

332

Dated 29 Aug
Received 1 Sept.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

EY965

[Signature] 1/9

References.

See within

(Print.)

1. Cairo 442

27 Aug.

(How disposed of.)

Copies

c.o. (Mr. Higham)
N.I.S. (Mr. Schen)

[Signature] 5/9

8) 11 P. ✓ 2 Sept

P.W. 1
8) Mr. Higham c.o.
Mr. Schen 115

6th Sept

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25 2/9

W.H.

Next Paper.

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References:-

FO 371 / 61824

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□ 97w

E8033/0
- 1 SEP 1947

58

Cypher/OTP.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM BRUSSELS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Harrison. D. 9.00 p.m. 29th August, 1947.
No. 532.

R. 7.04 p.m. 29th August, 1947.
29th August, 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem.

- - - -

Weekly Report.

No change.

Please pass to Jerusalem as telegram No. 17.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial
Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

2 SEP 1947

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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JMK

1 SEP 1947

742

E

59

(112/92/47)

Minister

His Majesty's ~~AMBASSADOR~~ presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper.

E8033 G

BRITISH EMBASSY,
CAIRO.

27th August, 1947

Exm/45/c

Reference to previous communication:

F.O. P.D 536 of 8th August 1947

Description of Enclosure.

Name, Date, etc.	Subject.
------------------	----------

FROM: His Majesty's Consul-General, Alexandria. Saving Telegram No. 12 of 23rd August, 1947.	Vessel s.s. Rio Norte will load cargo and proceed to Alexandria or Haifa and then trade in the Mediterranean.
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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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COPY/JMK

From: H.M. Consul General, Alexandria.

To: British Embassy, Cairo.

Date: August 23rd, 1947.

Saving Telegram No. 12. SECRET.

Addressed to Cairo, Saving Telegram No. 12
and repeated to S.O. (I), Port Said.

The following is the text of a telegram
addressed by me to H.M. Consul General at Genoa:-

"At the request of the General Navigation
Company of Egypt who state they have purchased
ss RIO NORTE (Weekly Suspect Shipping List
No. 14, page 6) I confirm that this Company is
an Egyptian Limited Liability Company formed in
1945. I have been informed that the vessel will
load cargo and proceed to Alexandria or Haifa
and will then trade in the Mediterranean".

From a telegram from the Master of the ss
Rio Norte addressed to the Owners it appears that
the vessel has been out on trial and shown a
maximum speed of sixteen knots; and that the vessel
will be ready for sea in ten days.

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Reference:-

FO 371

61822A

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1947

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31

Palestine
EASTERN

E8034 / G

-1 SEP 1947

G1

E8034/48/C

Mr Duff Cooper
Paris
842

Dated 29 Aug
Received 1 Sept.

S.S. Pan York

Rpts Paris to III to Marseilles.

Last Paper.

E8033

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11P

10/12/47 36

20 Aug

Rpts Algerie
Paris 16/9 200

8) 11P

(Minutes.)

M.I.S have further conflicting reports
about this ship. Await reply from
Marseilles.

[Signature]
1/4

1. Marseilles 153
(Marseilles 119 to Paris) 1 Sept

2. Rabat 74 1 Sept

[Signature]
13/9

(Action completed.)

25/2/9

(Index.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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Cypher/OTP

Green
E8034
DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM PARIS TO MARSEILLES

Mr. Duff Cooper

D. 9.00 p.m. 29th August, 1947

No. 111

29th August, 1947

R. 9.20 p.m. 29th August, 1947

Repeated to Foreign Office No. 842

62

u u u u u

IMPORTANT

SECRET

Illegal immigration.

We have received from secret sources two conflicting reports about Pan York

- (A) that on 27th August vessel was still at Marseilles
 - (B) that Commander in Chief Mediterranean has been informed by Marseilles that vessel left on August 25rd.
- Please clarify.

E 1 SEP 1947

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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Registry

No. F 8034/48/9

63

Top Secret.

Secret.

Confidential.

Restricted.

Open.

F. O.,

Despatched

12.15 P.M. 194 29/8

Draft.

RABAT

Confidential

Telegram.

No. 35

(Date) Aug 28

Repeat to :-

Algiers No - 61
Paris (morning) No - 1693

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

En Clair.

Coda.

Cypher.

Distribution :-

Departmental No. 1

Copies to :-

I. I. T.

Jewish illegal immigration.
S.S. PAN YORK (whose particulars are contained in Weekly List of suspect shipping) is reported to be en route for SAFI.

2. If she arrives there or at any other port within your area, please request local authorities to make a thorough inspection of vessel and to take precautions against possibility that she may attempt to embark illegal immigrants.

3. Our grounds for suspecting this vessel are strong, but we are not yet certain of her intentions. Any evidence you can obtain would be valuable. If you receive information confirming our suspicions

[Signature] 28/8

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Reference:-

FO 371

61824

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E.
Cypher/OTP
Confidential.

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO RABAT

No. 35
28th August, 1947.

D: 12.15 p.m. 29th August, 1947

Repeated to: Algiers No. 61
Paris (Saving) No. 1693

G G G G

CONFIDENTIAL

Jewish illegal immigration. S.S. Pan York (where particulars are contained in Weekly List of Suspect Shipping) is reported to be en route for Safi.

2. If she arrives there or at any other port within your area, please request local authorities to make a thorough inspection of vessel and to take precautions against possibility that she may attempt to embark illegal immigrants.

3. Our grounds for suspecting this vessel are strong, but we are not yet certain of her intentions. Any evidence you can obtain would be valuable.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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58/034/G

= 2 SEP 1947

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

65

Cypher/OTP

FROM MARSEILLES TO PARIS

Mr. Gallagher
No. 119
September 1st,
1947.

D. 6.34 p.m. September 1st, 1947.

R. 10.15 p.m. September 1st, 1947.

Repeated to FOREIGN OFFICE No. 153

SSSSS

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Illegal Jewish Immigration.

Your telegram No. 111.

Pan York left Marseilles in ballast on August 23rd for Safi. Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean informed by telegram. Photographs and descriptions also sent to him.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

Sept 1947

= 2 SEP 1947

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Reference:-

FO 371 / **61821**

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E8034

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM RABAT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Acting British Consul General

No. 74 D. 1.00 p.m. 1st September, 1947

1st September, 1947 R. 6.05 p.m. 1st September, 1947

Repeated to Algiers
Paris

8888

CONFIDENTIAL

Entailed

Your telegram No. 35 which was received on August 30th.

S.S. Pan York arrived Safi on August 28th and loaded 5,000 tons phosphates and sailed August 29th for Antwerp.

Police report that there was nothing suspicious.

Foreign Office please repeat to Algiers and Paris as my telegrams Nos. 4 and 4.

[Repeated to Algiers and Saving to Paris]

Will be sent down

SEP 26 1947

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 6182A

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Palestine
EASTERN

E8035/G

1 SEP 47

420.

1947

E8035/48/G

67

Mr. Duff Cooper,
Paris.

843.

August 30th.
Recd. Sept. 1st.

Illegal Immigration:
Reply by Acting Minister
of Foreign Affairs.

Last Paper.

(Minutes)

E8034

References.

EY 448

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) I.P.

7ed) Lulla etc
#698
6 Reps

Rpt to Berlin 3083
W'lon 9201
Paris 2005
Jerusalem

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

2F-29/9

W.H.

Next Paper.

German Refugee Dept.

This is the French reply to the approach which we made to them as soon as the convoy left Port Bouc, to the effect that they should make it possible for us to send the Jewish illegal immigrants back to France via the British zone of Germany in trains. It appears from the text quoted within that the French Government have not made some of the more unfriendly conditions which were reported in the Press, e.g. that they would not take anyone back who was forcibly disembarked at Hamburg. I have no doubt that these Press reports represented the Zionist interpretation of the French Government's likely decision. Nevertheless, the French Government now consent to the entry into France of all the immigrants on the "Exodus" who volunteer to go there and thus the condition of voluntary entry is maintained. Since we made our original approach to the French Government we have asked the United States Government to support us in pressing for the forcible return of Jews and the United States Government have instructed their Embassy in Paris to request the French Government to do anything possible to ease the situation. I doubt that this will have much effect. The most hopeful aspect of the present situation is that once the Jews are in Germany they ~~may be more~~ may be more inclined to enter France voluntarily. As soon as the Jews have arrived in Germany, we ought to start thinking about the best way of getting them back to France by either of the two following methods

- (a) "By communicating the further French offer to them and persuading them to return voluntarily,
- (b) By fixing a compulsory journey with French co-operation.

J.G.S. Beith

J.G.S. Beith,
2nd September, '47.

W.H.

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 61824

68

This was discussed at a meeting in Mr Beith's room on 4/9 at which Mr Fitzgerald of the Colonial Office, Mr Beith, and myself were present.

It was agreed that it was nothing to be gained now by pressing a scheme of compulsory return to France onto the French Government and that we had better accept their offer to take back volunteers only. On this basis, a course of action was agreed on, the gist of which is contained in the accompanying draft telegram to Lubbecke.

J. H. Young
5/9/47

Mr Beith, Eastern Dept.
Sir Gilman Jenkins

I have slightly altered the draft on various points and added a piece on immediate entraining on the S/S; personal instructions. Mr Young agrees.

J. H. Young
Sept. 6

Tel. app'd by Mr Warner
& sent JB sept. 6

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Reference:-
FO 371 / **61821**

E

Green

E8035

69

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Cypher/OTP CABINET DISTRIBUTION

- 1 SEP 1947

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Duff Cooper
No. 843

D. 1.07 p.m. 30th August, 1947.

30th August, 1947.

R. 1.20 p.m. 30th August, 1947.

Repeated to : Washington
Berlin
Lubbecke
Jerusalem

Marseilles - Saving

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

MM

Your telegram No. 1895: ^{E/9} illegal Jewish immigration.

I have not yet received official reply signed by Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs but Ministry inform me that it will be in terms of which the following is translation:

"Anxious to take account so far as possible of the desire expressed by the British Government, while safeguarding in conformity with their traditional policy towards refugees the absolute freedom of choice of the individuals concerned, the French Government consents to the entry into France of all the immigrants on the "Exodus" who volunteer to go there.

2. Lest this decision should bind the French Government in regard to the eventual admission into France of other displaced persons it must be understood that the admission of the refugees on the "Exodus" cannot be allowed to constitute a precedent for the future.

3. All those refugees who enter France under the above arrangements will be counted against the special quota established since the beginning of the present year for Jewish immigrants wishing to stay temporarily in France.

4 3. [sic] A committee will be set up at the Presidency of the Council to lay down the technical measures needed to carry out the foregoing decisions. This committee will also be charged with making the necessary arrangements in agreement with the other interested Ministries to avoid the repetition of incidents similar to those which took place on the departure of the "President Warfield" from Sete. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will keep in touch with the Embassy so as to work these arrangements out by mutual agreement."

Foreign Office please pass to Washington, Berlin, Lubbecke and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos. 183, 128, 4 and 37 respectively.

[Repeated to Washington, Berlin, Lubbecke and copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, for repetition to Jerusalem.]

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FO 371 / 61824

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Secret

Not Immediate

~~Staff Office of Comm. Dept.
Foreign Office.~~

~~Draft telegram (E 8035/48 (G))
shown herein.~~

~~J. Edmund~~

~~Memorandum,
of the
6th September 1946 1845 hrs.~~

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 6182A

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(13555) Wt. 43668-114 200m 2/47 G.S.St. Gp. 620

Registry
No.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

71
A

As soon as the illegal immigrants have landed in the British Zone my principal aim is to send them back to France. I should personally like to see trains drawn up at the quayside to take "volunteers" to France straight from the boats immediately ~~on arrival~~ and hope you can arrange this. ~~unsuccessful~~ Failing this, and in the case of any who may refuse at first to go to France, I should wish an ~~earlier~~ early opportunity to be given to them at the camps to entrain for France. It is important that the party should be segregated during this

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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72
this preliminary period, since
the French Govt. may very
likely require an assurance
that they represent the
original "Warfield" party
before they finally take them
back.

B

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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FO 371 / 61824

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Registry
No. E 8035/48/G

73

Top Secret.
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Restricted
Open.

F. O.,

194 .

M.

Draft.

MOST IMMEDIATE Despatched

SECRET

Lubbecke

Telegram.

Paris telegram No. 843 [of August 30th about

No. 4098

Jewish Illegal Immigration]

(Date) 26/9

Repeat to:

3083 Cairo
Berlin imptt.
Washington imptt.
Paris most imm
Jerusalem imptt.

As seen as the illegal immigrants have
landed in the British Zone ^{my} principal aim
is to send them back to France. With

this end in view they should be segregated
during the screening period ^{and the most} ~~and until further~~
^{urgent arrangements possible made to}
notice, while we pursue negotiations with the
French Government for their return. It is

important that ^{illegal immigrants} they should be segregated
since the French Government may very likely
require an assurance that they represent the
original "Warfield" party before they finally
take them back. ^B It would be useful if you

could arrange for a French Representative to
^{testify to the identity} witness the disposal of the illegal immigrants
^{on arrival and departure} in their camp for the purpose of guaranteeing
to his Government that no ^{ad}ditions are made
to the party.

2. You will observe that the French Government
still decline to accept any but volunteers.
There should therefore be no difficulty about
returning to France those who, after landing
in Germany, choose to go ^{there} to France. It may
~~however prove impossible~~ to send back "non
volunteers" as foreshadowed in my telegram
No. 1895 to Paris, Paragraph 3. I shall
welcome/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

I should personally
like to see tracks
drawn up at the point
to take volunteers
to France immediately
on arrival. Please
endeavour to arrange
this.

Private Sec. P.D.
Mrs. Bevin 6/9
En Clair. Sept. 6
Code.
Cypher.

Distribution:—
Cabinet Dist.

German Refugee
Dept. agree

Copies to:—
I.I.P.

is still open to
consideration
whether we should
attempt

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FO 371 / 61824

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welcome the comments of His Majesty's
Ambassador at Paris on this latter possibility.
3. ⁷⁴ I suggest that the following policy
should be adopted with regard to ~~these~~ any,
whom it may prove impossible to return to
France:

- (a) If the I.R.O. ^{are prepared} ~~card~~ to regard the
genuine displaced persons amongst the
party as being eligible under their
constitution, you ^{to should} ~~are~~ make arrangements
for people in this category to be
transferred to Hühne or elsewhere to join
the existing D.P. Jewish population.
Meanwhile we are sounding I.R.O. on this
point.
- (b) Those who do not qualify for
I.R.O. care and maintenance should be
looked after by you in camps for as long
as they choose to accept such maintenance.
They should be free to go to France at
any time or to move about in the Zone
in accordance with ^{the} normal rules appropriate
to refugees. They should not, however
be forcibly turned loose into the German
population.
- (c) ~~all~~ Those remaining in the Zone
should be informed that they will be
eligible for Palestine certificates under
Grand National. This should not adversely
affect ~~existing~~ Jewish displaced persons ^{at present in the}
who will retain priority, but it is ^{Zone} not
necessary to emphasize this fact.

~~4. Timing of final announcement to the
illegal immigrants with regard to their return
to France will require careful consideration,
Please let me have your views and those of O.C.~~

~~troops/~~

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Green 75

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E 8035/48/G

Secret

Cypher OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO LUBBECKE

No. 4698

6th September 1947. D. 9.00 p.m. 6th September 1947.

Repeated to Berlin No. 3083 (Important)
Washington No. 9201 (Important)
Paris No. 2005 (Most Immediate)
Jerusalem (Important)

MOST IMMEDIATE
SECRET

TTTTTT

Paris telegram No. 843 [of August 30th: about Jewish Illegal Immigration].

As seen as the illegal immigrants have landed in the British Zone my principal aim is to send them back to France. I should personally like to see trains drawn up at the quayside to take "volunteers" to France straight from the boats and hope you can arrange this. Failing this, and in the case of any who may refuse at first to go to France, I should wish an early opportunity to be given to them at the camps to entrain for France. It is important that the party should be segregated during this preliminary period, since the French Government may very likely require an assurance that they represent the original "Warfield" party before they finally take them back. It would be useful if you could arrange for a French representative to testify to the identity of the illegal immigrants on arrival and departure for the purpose of guaranteeing to his Government that no additions are made to the party.

2. You will observe that the French Government still decline to accept any but volunteers. There should therefore be no difficulty about returning to France those who, after landing in Germany, choose to go there. It is still open to consideration whether we should attempt to send back "non-volunteers" as foreshadowed in my telegram No. 1895 to Paris, paragraph 3. I shall welcome the comments of His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris on this latter possibility.

3.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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3. I suggest that the following policy should be adopted with regard to any whom it may prove impossible to return to France:

(a) If the I.R.O. are prepared to regard the genuine displaced persons amongst the party as being eligible under their constitution, you should make arrangements for people in this category to be transferred to Heine or elsewhere to join the existing displaced persons Jewish population. Meanwhile we are sounding I.R.O. on this point.

(b) Those who do not qualify for I.R.O. care and maintenance should be looked after by you in camps for as long as they choose to accept such maintenance. They should be free to go to France at any time or to move about in the Zone in accordance with the normal rules appropriate to refugees. They should not, however be forcibly turned loose into the German population.

(c) Those remaining in the Zone should be informed that they will be eligible for Palestine certificates under Grand National. This should not adversely affect Jewish displaced persons at present in the Zone who will retain priority, but it is not necessary to emphasize this fact.

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Reference:-

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61824

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

(This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be
retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on)

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE (GERMAN SECTION) TO LUBBECKE

No 4698 Basic

SECRET

6th September 1947

MOST IMMEDIATE

Repeated: Berlin No 3083 Basic Important
Washington No Important
Paris No Most Immediate
Jerusalem No Important

D 6.20 pm 6th September 1947

Paris telegram No 843 (of 30th August about Jewish
Illegal Immigration).

As soon as the illegal immigrants have landed in
the British Zone my principal aim is to send them back to
France. I should personally like to see trains drawn up at
the quayside to take QUOTE volunteers UNQUOTE to France
straight from the boats and hope you can arrange this.
Failing this, and in the case of any who may refuse at first
to go to France, I should wish an early opportunity to be
given to them at the camps to entrain for France. It is
important that the party should be segregated during this
preliminary period, since the French Government may very
likely require an assurance that they represent the original
QUOTE warfield UNQUOTE party before they finally take them
back. It would be useful if you could arrange for a French
representative to testify to the identity of the illegal
immigrants on arrival and departure for the purpose of
guaranteeing to his Government that no additions are made to
the party.

2. You will observe that the French Government still
decline to accept any but volunteers. There should therefore
be no difficulty about returning to France those who, after
landing in Germany, choose to go there. It is still open
to consideration whether we should attempt to send back
QUOTE non volunteers UNQUOTE as foreshadowed in my telegram
No 1895 to Paris, paragraph 3. I shall welcome the comments
of His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris on this latter possibility.

3. I suggest that the following policy should be adopted
with regard to any whom it may prove impossible to return to
France:

- (a) If the I.R.O. are prepared to regard the genuine
Displaced Persons amongst the party as being eligible
under their constitution, you should make

/arrangements....

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FO 371 / 6182A

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7B

- 2 -

arrangements for people in this category to be transferred to Hohné or elsewhere to join the existing D.P. Jewish population. Meanwhile we are sounding I.R.O. on this point.

- (b) Those who do not qualify for I.R.O. care and maintenance should be looked after by you in camps for as long as they choose to accept such maintenance. They should be free to go to France at any time or to move about in the Zone in accordance with the normal rules appropriate to refugees. They should not, however be forcibly turned loose into the German population.
- (c) Those remaining in the Zone should be informed that they will be eligible for Palestine certificates under Grand National. This should not adversely affect Jewish Displaced Persons at present in the Zone who will retain priority, but it is not necessary to emphasise this fact.

Originator: Mr Beith (E 8035/48/G)
Distribution: Cabinet Distribution
I. I.P.

G/317
89

JE/RHR

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and closed until..... *1998*

*delete as necessary

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Palestine
EASTERN

E7938 / 48/c
28 Aug 1947

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 61821

1017
E7938 / 48/c
Lord Sverchapo
to 'ton
4720
Dated 27 Aug
Received 28 Aug.

Jewish illegal immigration
disposal of Jews at Gibraltar.

Last Paper.

E7934

References.

E7924

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11P. 2 Sep
Ted) to 'ton 8845
29 Aug
Rpid Paris 1951
Jerusalem
Berlin 2549
Lubbecke
8) 11P. 2 Sep

(Action completed.)

27/8

(Index.)

WJS

Next Paper.

(Minutes.)

I lunched with Mr Lewis Jones of the
US Embassy today and returned to
P.O. with Mr Bob Coe. Both
pressed me on the "President
Waffield" case and both
mentioned the possibility of a
last-minute transfer to France.
I told Mr Coe we would be
up against the same difficulties
at Cherbourg as at Port de Bone.
Were his Govt. interested to
help? He said he thought it
wd be a good idea to approach
them.
I have suggested a draft
Mr. Stein
Aug 27 THE

80

The draft telegram submitted on this paper was further considered this morning by Mr. Mayhew. Mr. Makins, Mr. Wright and myself were present. It was decided that it would be unwise to accept the possibility of sending the transports into another French port, even if we were to receive what appeared to be satisfactory guarantees from the French Government. Mr. Mayhew pointed out that we had already incurred all the odium we were likely to over this business and that we should now go through with it. Mr. Wright suggested that, while making it clear that we could not agree to go into another French port, we might enlist American support with the French on a more realistic basis. i.e. press the French to accept the Jews back without conditions and, if necessary, by force. This suggestion was accepted and I submit an amended draft telegram to Washington.

Should we give Western Department a sight of this telegram before it is finally submitted?

J.G.S. Beith

(J.G.S. Beith)
29th August, 1947.

West Dept.

ack
29/8

a/a.

B
29/8.

Tel. sent
JB Aug 29

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61821

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Green.
E7938 81

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel

D.8.14 p.m. 27th August, 1947.

No. 4720

27th August, 1947. R.1.45 a.m. 28th August, 1947.

B B B B

IMMEDIATE

Your telegram No. 8575. Jewish illegal immigration.

When I saw Levett today he asked if he might revert to the question of the disposal of the shiploads of Jews now at Gibraltar on their way to Hamburg.

2. His Government was most anxious not to do anything to embarrass His Majesty's Government, and I must understand that his present pleadings were unofficial and sprang solely from a feeling of real friendship for ourselves and a sincere wish to see nothing disturb our relations at a moment when so much that was vital depended upon close harmony. In all frankness he now felt bound to tell me that persistence in our decision to land these Jews in North Germany, where the ghosts of their murdered relatives were still stalking abroad, would make a most deplorable impression here and have repercussions upon our whole relationship that he did not care to contemplate. For some time he had been and he still was subject to the strongest representations from large sections of the public, congressional, church and so on, which had hitherto discounted Jewish clamours and sympathised with us in our almost intolerable task in Palestine. He begged most earnestly that our decision should be reconsidered - anywhere in the world but Hamburg, where he could foresee nothing but a terrible "explosion".

3. I explained what our difficulties were that the blame must lie with those who were promoting these unhappy attempts to force our hand. He said that he understood all this but must warn me that public opinion in this country was incapable of appreciating it and was bound to flare up in such a way as might well frustrate the efforts his Government was making to help us to find a solution of our present problems.

4. I am sorry to add to your troubles with this story, but he spoke with such friendly earnestness that I feel obliged to pass it on to you.

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82

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J.G.S.B.

F.O.,

29 August 1947.

Despatched

4:30 P.M.
E7038

Draft.

H.M. Ambassador,
Washington.

IMMEDIATE
SECRET.

Telegram.

No. 8845

(Date) Aug 29th

Repeat to:—

Paris 7951
Jerusalem

2549
W. J. J. J. J.

Co. wo. and
Adby Conner

J. S. Dennis
Aug 29

~~EXCISE~~

~~EXCISE~~

Cypher.

Distribution:—

Cabinet

Copies to:—

I.I.P.

Paris telegram No. 841 [of August 27th] and your telegram No. 4720 [of August 27th]: Jewish illegal immigration.

I have asked H.M. Embassy at Paris to telegraph the full text of the French reply, repeating to you, as soon as possible. It is not yet known exactly what conditions the French have imposed but we know that they continue to insist on the illegal immigrants entering France voluntarily.

2. Strong pressure is being applied also by United States Embassy here at all levels on the lines that the illegal immigrants should be sent "anywhere but Hamburg". Members of the United States Embassy have more than once enquired whether the transports could not put in at a French port like Cherbourg, as a last resort, before reaching Hamburg. It has been pointed out to them that we should undoubtedly be up against the same difficulties on the French side at Cherbourg as ^{we} were at Port de Bouc, and it would be impossible to make such a change in the plan at the last moment. Transports are leaving today. Nevertheless, we share the anxiety of U.S. officials that the illegal immigrants should be returned to France rather than Germany and we suggest that the U.S. should press the French Government to receive them

back/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(13556) Wt. 48697-140 100m 3/47 G.S.St. Gp 620

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Reference:-

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83

back without conditions. *via the British zone of Germany.*

3. I should be grateful if you would make this suggestion immediately to the State Department, emphasising that the object of the present operation is essentially to return the illegal immigrants to France on the grounds that they left there illicitly, i.e. with forged Colombian visas, without final French clearance and without permission to enter Palestine. The French Government have hitherto refused to co-operate in the measures of constraint required to secure the return of the illegal immigrants to French soil. In these circumstances I should very much hope to have the support of the United States Government in pressing the French Government to accept back the illegal immigrants into France via the British zone of Germany without imposing any conditions whatever ~~ie. if necessary by force.~~ *ie. compulsorily.* This follows the normal international practice of sending back people without entry visas ~~illegally~~ to the country of departure.

Rus
29/8.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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FO 371 / **61824**

84

August 7

IMMEDIATE
TOP SECRET

H.M. Ambassador,
Washington

8845

Paris telegram No. 841 [of August 27th]
and your telegram No. No.4720 [of August 27th]
Jewish Illegal Immigration.

I have asked H.M. Embassy at Paris to
telegraph the full text of the French reply,
repeating to you, as soon as possible. It is
not yet known exactly what conditions the
French have imposed but we know that they
continue to insist on the illegal immigrants
entering France voluntarily.

Paris
Jerusalem
hubbroke
Berlin

2. Strong pressure is being applied also
by United States Embassy here at all levels
on the lines that the illegal immigrants should
be sent "anywhere but Hamburg". Members of
the United States Embassy have more than once
enquired whether the transports could not put
in at a French port like Cherbourg, as a last
resort, before reaching Hamburg. It has been
pointed out to them that we should undoubtedly
be up against the same difficulties on the
French side at Cherbourg as we were at Port de
Bouc and it would be impossible to make such a
change in the plan at the last moment. Transports
are leaving today. Nevertheless we share the
anxiety of U.S. officials that the illegal
immigrants should be returned to France rather
than Germany and we suggest that the U.S.G.
should press the French Government to receive
them back without conditions into the British

Cabinet

I.I.P.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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85

zone of Germany.

3. I should be grateful if you would make this suggestion immediately to the State Department, emphasizing that the object of the present operation is essentially to return the illegal immigrants to France on the grounds that they left there illicitly, i.e. with forged Colombian visas, without final French clearance and without permission to enter Palestine. The French Government have hitherto refused to cooperate in the measures of constraint required to secure the return of the illegal immigrants to French soil. In these circumstances I should very much hope to have the support of the U.S.G. in pressing the French Government to accept back the illegal immigrants into France via the British Zone of Germany without imposing any conditions whatever i.e. compulsorily. This follows the normal international practice of sending back people without entry visas to the country of departure.

Handwritten notes:
 2/11/52
 R. Brown

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Cypher 86

E7938/48/G.
Secret.

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Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO WASHINGTON.

No. 8845

29th August, 1947.

D: 4.50 p.m. 29th August, 1947.

Repeated to Paris 1951

Jerusalem
Berlin No. 2549
Labbecke.
A A A A

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Paris telegram No. 841 [of August 27th] and your telegram No. 4720 [of August 27th]: Jewish illegal immigration.

I have asked His Majesty's Embassy at Paris to telegraph the full text of the French reply, repeating to you, as soon as possible. It is not yet known exactly what conditions the French have imposed but we know that they continue to insist on the illegal immigrants entering France voluntarily.

2. Strong pressure is being applied also by United States Embassy here at all levels on the lines that the illegal immigrants should be sent "anywhere but Hamburg". Members of the United States Embassy have more than once enquired whether the transports could not put in at a French port like Cherbourg, as a last resort, before reaching Hamburg. It has been pointed out to them that we should undoubtedly be up against the same difficulties on the French side at Cherbourg as we were at Port de Bouc, and it would be impossible to make such a change in the plan at the last moment. Transports are leaving today. Nevertheless, we share the anxiety of United States officials that the illegal immigrants should be returned to France rather than Germany and we suggest that the United States should press the French Government to receive them back without conditions via the British Zone of Germany.

3. I should be grateful if you would make this suggestion immediately to the State Department, emphasising that the object of the present operation is essentially to return the illegal immigrants to France on the grounds that they left there illicitly, i.e. with forged Colombian visas, without final French clearance and without permission to enter Palestine. The French Government have hitherto /refused

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refused to co-operate in the measures of constraint required to secure the return of the illegal immigrants to French soil. In these circumstances I should very much hope to have the support of the United States Government in pressing the French Government to accept back the illegal immigrants into France via the British zone of Germany without imposing any conditions whatever i.e. compulsorily. This follows the normal international practice of sending back people without entry visas to the country of departure.

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1947

422

Palestine
EASTERN

E8049/G

33

E8049/MS/C

President Warfield

F.O. Min
Mr. Harkin

Conversation with Mr. Coe
of U.S. Embassy on 29 Aug.

Dated 29 Aug
Received 1 Sept.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

E8036

JB sept. 2

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

259/e

ky

Next Paper.

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 61824

Minutes

with
E8069
= 1 SEP 1947

Record of conversation.

I asked the Acting Counsellor of the U.S. Ambassadorto call this afternoon to receive a reply to the representations which he had made on August 27th about the Jews ex the S.S. President Warfield. I said we had considered the various possibilities he had mentioned in the light of his remarks on U.S. opinion and of the message which we had also received from Lord Inverchapel through the Acting Secretary of State. We regretted that we could not find any alternative to taking these illegal immigrants to Hamburg.

I added, however, that we were anxious that these Jews should not remain in Germany but should go to France from whence they had started. We had asked the French Government to take them over land from the British Zone but the answer which we had received was conditional, on their voluntary movement. We were now asking the State Department to intervene with the French Government to withdraw their conditions. # I also informed Mr. Coe that the military authorities in Germany would be responsible for the immigrants on their arrival, and were making a statement today about the arrangements which were being made to handle them. I read to Mr. Coe the draft statement in CCG 10651 of the 26th August warning him that this was not the final text. I said that we would send him a transcript of what General Bishop actually said as soon as it was received here.

Mr. Coe thanked me and said he would inform his Ambassador and the State Department.

Ryhat
(Roger Makins)

29th August, 1947.

Fasley

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

among the things,

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 6182A

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CYPHER
(Phrasing unnecessary)

90

INWARD TELEGRAM

(This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on)

FROM LUBBECKE TO FOREIGN OFFICE (GERMAN SECTION)

CCG 10651

TOP SECRET

26th August 1947

MOST IMMEDIATE

Repeated: Berlin D 5.30 pm 26th August 1947
Herford (For Public Relations) R 11.59 pm 26th August 1947

For Mr Maurice DEAN from General BISHOP.

BASIC. 26th August. Jewish Illegal Immigration.

Following is in confirmation of my telecon with IVIMY today. I have been instructed to meet Press representatives on Friday 29th August, and to do everything possible to put across arrangements we have made for reception and disposal of illegal emigrants on arrival at Hamburg. In view importance of doing everything possible to kill distorted stories by true facts concerning arrangements we have made, it is proposed that correspondents should be allowed to quote me by name. Following is text of statement I propose to make. Grateful if you could inform me on telephone whether you approve.

~~ECINS.~~ I have come to meet you today to explain the arrangements we have made for the reception and disposal of the 4,500 Jewish illegal immigrants who attempted to enter Palestine on board the S.S. PRESIDENT WARFIELD, when they arrive at the port of Hamburg. The three ships will be escorted to quay side by Royal Navy. Ships will come ashore one at a time, remainder waiting their turn down the river. On docking normal examination by Frontier Control officials will be carried out. Officials in question will be British and not German. Passengers will be invited to disembark peacefully and normally. It is most sincerely hoped that this invitation will be accepted. If, however, it should not be accepted the ship will be handed over to the Military Authorities who will be responsible for disembarking the illegal immigrants. In carrying out this unpleasant task the minimum force necessary will of course, be used. On disembarkation passengers will be conveyed by rail to two Camps near Lubeck. These are Poppendorf, which holds 3,400, and Am Stow which holds 1,000. These two Camps are within two kilometres of each other. They are both Refugee Camps and although accommodation is not luxurious it is adequate. The usual scale of accommodation stores and bedding will be provided. As composition of the party is not known it

/will be.....

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Reference: **FO 371** / 61824

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IRO will be requested to consider whether any of these persons are eligible under their charter & those who are so eligible will be treated as D.P.S. 91

will be necessary to "screen" the passengers. There is, of course, nothing unusual in this, all passengers on arrival in a country are subject to passport examination and similar scrutiny. To ensure that this screening is properly carried out it will be necessary to place a military guard both in the train from the ship to the camp and in the two camps themselves. This task will be performed by British soldiers, German police will not be used. The guards will be removed as soon as screening is completed and it is estimated that this may take about two weeks. This is only an estimate, it may be shorter or perhaps longer. Nations will be supplied on the normal refugee scale. ~~It will of course be appreciated that these people do not enjoy D.P. status.~~ Jewish voluntary Societies in the zone have been asked to assist with additional supplies and amenities and the British Red Cross has also been asked whether they can give any aid. Members of the International Red Cross will be present at the disembarkation at Hamburg and in the camps as observers. ~~The future of these unfortunate people will depend on the response that the French Government make to His Majesty's Government's request to take them back into France. If this is accepted, trains to France will be arranged, but no force will be used to make them go. If the French refuse, they will continue to lead the life of refugees in the British zone. If any of them wish to go to other zones, the normal machinery for interzonal movement can be invoked. It is our desire that the Press should be afforded all reasonable facilities for observing and reporting on the arrival and reception of these people. There will be no restriction on Press representatives who wish to visit the camps to see for themselves the position. You will, however, realise that if a situation arises on disembarkation necessitating the intervention of the Military it may be necessary to restrict in some measure the movements of press representatives. MDS.~~

You will note that I propose restricting my remarks to arrangements we have made for reception and disposal of these individuals. If questioned about reasons for their despatch to Germany I do not propose to give any answer which is not covered by material contained in your telegram of 23rd August No 2468.

but those who do not want to go

Action: Mr Iviny

Distribution: PS/Secretary of State
 PS/Chancellor
 PS/Sir Gilmour Jenkins (3 copies)
 PS/Mr. Maurice Dean (2 copies)
 German Refugee Dept (3 copies)
 German Internal Affairs (3 copies)
 Mr Underwood (2 copies)
 Mr Beith Eastern Dept
 /Contd.....

The French Govt. have expressed themselves willing to accept these people into France provided that (a) they go voluntarily (b) this does not create a precedent.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

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contd. Distribution: ~~X~~ Lord Jellicoe
Communications Dept (10 copies)

War Office: M.O.4. (2 copies)

Colonial Office: Mr Trafford Smith

G/317
2702

AFR/RHR

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Reference:-

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Palistine
EASTERN

E8050 / G
1 SEP 1947

93

422 1947
E8050 / 48 / G

President Wafield

U.S. + C.O. suggestions.

F.O.Hin
Mr Reelley

Dated 30 Aug
Received 1 Sept.

Last Paper.

E8036

(Minutes.)

See within

References.

1. F.O.Hin Mr Harkins 30 Aug

JB Sept. 2

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

1) Paris 1960
31 Aug

Rpt'd W'lon 8921
Jerusalem

2) W'lon 8922
31 Aug

Rpt'd Paris 1961
Jerusalem

3) both tabs
HP

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25/9

HP

Next Paper.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61824

Enter
E8000
- 1 SEP 1947

94

Mr. Makins

Separate minute

"President Warfield's" Passengers.

Both in Washington and in London, the Americans have expressed their anxiety about our decision to take these illegal immigrants to Hamburg. They have been told that the object of our operation is still to return the Jews to France, and they have been asked to support us in Paris by pressing the French Government to withdraw their stipulation that only those who volunteer to enter France shall be received across the frontier from the British Zone. (Telegram to Washington No. 8845, flag A).

E7938/48/31

Both the Americans and the High Commissioner for Palestine, however, fear the repercussions (on public opinion in the United States and on the security situation in Palestine respectively) of the landing of the Jews on German soil, whether or not they subsequently leave for France. The American Embassy and the Colonial Office have each made proposals designed to avoid a landing in Germany :

- (a) The American Embassy suggested that we should take the transports into Cherbourg or some other French port and make a further attempt there to induce the passengers to land.
- (b) The Colonial Office, in order to meet the High Commissioner's wishes, have made the alternative suggestion that a further approach should be made to the passengers while the ships are still at sea but before they have passed up the Channel, renewing the offer of hospitality in France and offering to put into a French port if they agree to land. Under this proposal the ships would not enter Cherbourg or any other harbour until it was clear that a substantial number of their passengers would disembark.

We have rejected the American proposal, on the ground that we cannot risk another fiasco similar to that which took place at Port de Bouc (flag A).

The Colonial Office proposal does not seem to be open to the same objection. It is not likely that the Jews would agree to land, but at least the fact that we had again offered to take them to a French port would demonstrate to the world our reluctance to proceed to the extreme measure of a landing in Germany. We are therefore recommend that this suggestion should be put to the French Government, and a draft telegram is attached. (Flag B).

C.O., H.O. and Admiralty concur.

H. Bealey

30th August, 1947.

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Reference:-
FO 371 / **61824**

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SECRETARY OF STATE.

JEWS EX "PRESIDENT WARFIELD"

I submit a note by the Department and draft telegrams to Paris and Washington on this subject.

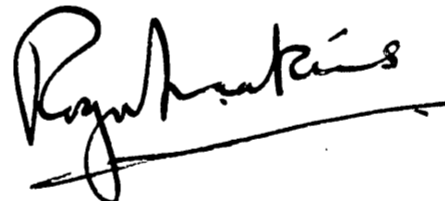
The telegram to Paris is the result of a meeting with the High Commissioner for Palestine who is at present in London and who is very apprehensive about the effect on security in Palestine of landing of the Jews in Hamburg. The telegram carries the agreement of all the Departments concerned.

E7938/48/31

The Americans have also expressed great anxiety and you should see Washington telegram No. 4720 (Flag D).

The action now proposed is that another offer to land at a French northern port should be made to the immigrants on their way up the Channel, but that no attempt should be made to effect a landing unless a substantial number of volunteers come forward.

I doubt very much whether anything will come of this proposal and therefore whether it is even worth putting ~~it~~ forward. But it may be of some propaganda advantage to us, and, in view of the strong representations of Sir Alan Cunningham, I therefore send the telegrams forward with a recommendation that they be approved.



30th August, 1947.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61822

H.B.

August, 1947

Paris

IMMEDIATE

TOP SECRET

Washington
Jerusalem

The High Commissioner for Palestine has again ^{repeated the danger} ~~repeated the possibility~~ of serious repercussions in Palestine when the illegal immigrants are landed at Hamburg. I am therefore anxious to ensure that no opportunity is missed ^{to avoid} ~~to avoid~~ the necessity of sending them there. The only remaining possibility appears to be to approach the immigrants as the convoy sails up the Channel, with a repetition of the French offer to accept those who volunteer to land.

2. The offer would be made at sea, and ^{it is} ~~is~~ not intended that the ships should be taken into harbour unless the whole or a substantial number of the illegal immigrants should previously have signified their willingness to disembark. We cannot risk a repetition of the Port de Bouc fiasco (see my telegram to Washington No. 8845 repeated to you).

3. Before we can take this step we require the consent of the French Government to a voluntary landing at a channel port ^{Cherbourg} (possibly ~~Hamburg~~). Please therefore, unless you/

Cypher
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Departmental No.2.

I.I.P.

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 6182A

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you see strong objection, ask the French for their agreement to the proposed renewal of their original offer and to the landing of any volunteers at a channel port. The offer would possibly have more effect if it were made by a representative of the French Government. If the French agree in principle, you should therefore ask whether they would be prepared to send a French official on board the transports before they ~~reach~~ ^{have} the designated port.

4. I am not hopeful of the success of this ~~attempt~~ ^{attempt}. But at least it ~~will~~ ^{would} help us from the publicity point of view by emphasising our reluctance to take the extreme measure of landing the immigrants by force in Germany. *If it did succeed,* it would also avoid the necessity of further argument with the French Government over the conditions which they have hitherto attached to their consent to receive the immigrants by train from the British Zone.

Approved

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 6182A

Registry
No.

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Open

H.B.
Draft.

Paris

Telegram.

No. 1960

(Date) Aug 31st

Repeat to:—

Washington 8921
Jerusalem

~~XXXXXX~~
~~XXXX~~
Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental No.2.

Copies to:—

I.I.P.

(A)

F. O.,

194

Despatched 110 P. M.
August, 1947

IMMEDIATE

~~TOP SECRET~~

Your telegram No 841 & my telegram
No 8845 Washington.

The High Commissioner for Palestine has again ^{represented the danger} ~~repeated the possibility~~ of serious repercussions in Palestine when the illegal immigrants are landed at Hamburg. I am therefore anxious to ensure that no opportunity is missed ^{of avoiding} ~~to avoid~~ the necessity of sending them there. The only remaining possibility appears to be to approach the immigrants, as the convoy sails up the Channel, with a repetition of the French offer to accept those who volunteer to land.

2. The offer would be made at sea, and it is ~~not~~ intended that the ships should be taken into harbour unless the whole or a substantial number of the illegal immigrants should previously have signified their willingness to disembark. We cannot risk a repetition of the Port de Bouc fiasco (see my telegram to Washington No. 8845 repeated to you).

3. Before we can take this step we require the consent of the French Government to a voluntary landing at a channel port ^{Cherbourg} (possibly ~~Hamburg~~). Please therefore, unless
you/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:—
FO 371 / 6182A

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you see strong objection, ask the French for their agreement to the proposed renewal of their original offer and to the landing of any volunteers at a channel port. The offer would possibly have more effect if it were made by a representative of the French Government. If the French agree in principle, you should therefore ask whether they would be prepared to send a French official on board the transports before they ^{pass} reach the designated port.

4. I am not hopeful of the success of this ~~proposal~~ ^{attempt}. But at least it ^{would} ~~will~~ help us from the publicity point of view by emphasising our reluctance to ~~take the extreme measure by of~~ ^{possibly} landing the immigrants by force in Germany. ^{if it did succeed,} It would also avoid the necessity of further argument with the French Government over the conditions which they have hitherto attached to their consent to receive the immigrants by train from the British Zone.

WJ

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SECRET

100

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PARIS

No. 1960.
August 31st, 1947.

D. 1.10 p.m. August 31st, 1947.

Repeated to Washington No. 8921
Jerusalem

JJJ

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

E7930/48/31
Your telegram No. 841 and my telegram No. 8845 to Washington.

The High Commissioner for Palestine has again represented the danger of serious repercussions in Palestine when the illegal immigrants are landed at Hamburg. I am therefore anxious to ensure that no opportunity is missed of avoiding the necessity of sending them there. The only remaining possibility appears to be to approach the immigrants, as the convey sails up the Channel, with a repetition of the French offer to accept those who volunteer to land.

2. The offer would be made at sea, and it is not intended that the ships should be taken into harbour unless the whole or a substantial number of the illegal immigrants should previously have signified their willingness to disembark. We cannot risk a repetition of the Port de Bouc fiasco (see my telegram to Washington No. 8845 repeated to you).

3. Before we can take this step we require the consent of the French Government to a voluntary landing at a channel port (possibly Cherbourg). Please therefore, unless you see strong objection, ask the French for their agreement to the proposed renewal of their original offer and to the landing of any volunteers at a channel port. The offer would possibly have more effect if it were made by a representative of the French Government. If the French agree in principle, you should therefore ask whether they would be prepared to send a French official on board the transports before they pass the designated port.

4. I am not hopeful of the success of this attempt. But at least it would help us from the publicity point of view by emphasising our reluctance to land the immigrants possibly by force, in Germany. If it did succeed, it would also avoid the necessity of further argument with French Government over the conditions which they have hitherto attached to their consent to receive the immigrants by train from the British Zone.

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FO 371

61824

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Open.

WASHINGTON

Telegram.

No.

(Date)

Repeat to :-

~~En Clair.~~
~~Code.~~
Cypher.

Distribution :-

Dept No 2.

Copies to :-

(B)

F. O.,

101

318 194

~~Despatched~~

2.15 p M.

1960

IMMEDIATE
SECRET

My telegram No. A to Paris and
my tel. No. 8845.

Please inform State Department of
this proposal and ask them to support
it in Paris in addition to the action
which I hope they are taking in response
to the proposal in my telegram No. 8845.

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Secret
Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 2.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO WASHINGTON

No. 8922

31st August, 1947. D. 2.15 p.m. 31st August, 1947.

Repeated to Paris No. 1961
Jerusalem

F F F F

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

My telegram No. 1960 to Paris and my telegram
No. 8845.

Please inform State Department of this
proposal and ask them to support it in Paris in
addition to the action which I hope they are taking
in response to the proposal in my telegram No. 8845.

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61824

Palestine

E8051 /G

-1 SEP 1947

EASTERN

103

484

E8051/48/G

Mr Duff Cooper
Paris
847

Dated 1 Sept
Received 1 Sept

President Warfield News:

Last Paper.
E8050

HPP

(Minutes.)

References.
E8050/48/G

Mr. Garran and Mr. Beeley attended ~~the~~ a meeting yesterday afternoon at the Colonial Office and agreed to reply to Paris on the lines of the annexed draft.

We are in close touch with the Americans in Washington, Paris and London and the U.S. Embassy at Paris will not attempt to support this second proposal of ours before our own Embassy are ready to make it.

J.G.S. Beith

J.G.S. BEITH.
2nd September, 1947.

(Print.)

(How disposed of)

8) H.P. ✓ 2 Sept

8) Lel Paris 1967.

Sept. 2

Rptd. Washington 8968

8) i.i.p. ✓ 3 Sept

The background to this ^{proposed} approach to the French Govt is given in E8050/G.

P. Garran
2/1x

CFAS
2/1x

Tel. sent
JB

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25 4/9

Next Paper.

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 6182A

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ESOSI
1 SEP 1947
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

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Cypher/OTP.

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Duff Cooper.
No. 847.

D. 1.00 p.m. 1st September 1947.

1st September 1947. R. 1.10 p.m. 1st September 1947.

Repeated to: Washington and
Jerusalem.

W:W:W:W:W

MOST IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Foreign Office please pass Most Immediate to both Washington and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos. 184 and 39 respectively.

Your telegram No. 1960.

Jewish immigrants.

I do see strong objection to taking action suggested. First, such action must convey impression of weakness and yielding to popular clamour.

2. Secondly, the Jews themselves would thus be encouraged to maintain their refusal. No new reason could be given why they should alter it.

3. Thirdly, the French would doubtless say that their offer remained open but would probably make difficulties about sending officials on board ships to repeat it.

4. Fourthly, elaborate preparations had been made in the south for reception of Jews both by Government and voluntary societies. Suitable camps were available. Food and medical stores and personnel had been collected and quite a large administrative effort had been made. This would be very difficult to repeat at short notice in Normandy at the height of the holiday season.

5. Lastly, I doubt very much whether from a publicity point of view such an offer would not do more harm than good. It would be interpreted as showing an eleventh hour sense of shame on our part, and I am convinced that the refusal of the Jews, who now see themselves as martyrs, would be a certainty.

6. Essential fact is that any of these Jews who wish on arrival at Hamburg to leave Germany for a free

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Reference:-
FO 371 / 61824

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existence in France are at liberty to do so. If they decide to stay in Germany it will be by their own choice. Surely all the resources of our information services should be directed to putting this across in the United States and elsewhere.

[Repeated to Washington.]

[Copies sent Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, for repetition to Jerusalem.]

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FO 371 / 61824

Registry
No. E8051/48/G

~~Top Secret.~~
Secret.
~~Confidential.~~
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

H.M. Ambassador,
Paris.

Telegram.

No. 1967

(Date) Sept 2

Repeat to :—

Washington
Jerusalem

C.O. Concur

N.S. Beine
Sept. 2nd.

~~En-Clair.~~

~~Code.~~

~~Cypher.~~

Distribution :—

DEPARTMENTAL NO.2.

Copies to :—

I.I.P.

106
F. O.,

September, 1947.

Despatched 1 copy M.

MOST IMMEDIATE.
SECRET.

Your Telegram No. 847 of September
1st: Jewish Illegal Immigration.

I have given careful thought to the
considerations outlined in your telegram and
I fully recognize the strength of the argument
you have adduced in your fourth paragraph against
the action proposed in my telegram No.1960,
although I do not consider that the other
arguments are such as to rule out an approach
to the French Government ^{on the lines} as suggested.

2. In general I should prefer to see what the
French Government have to say to the proposal
before abandoning it completely and I should
therefore be grateful if you would take the
matter up informally with the French Authorities.
If they represent that the practical difficulties
are over-riding, you need not press the proposal.

CRS
29

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:—
FO 371
61824

Green
107

ESQ51/48/G

Secret

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No: 2

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PARIS (AMBASSADOR)

No: 1967

2nd September 1947

D.1.40.p.m. 2nd September 1947

Repeated to Washington No: 8986 Important
Jerusalem

X:X:X:

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Your telegram No: 847 [of September 1st:
Jewish Illegal Immigration].

I have given careful thought to the considerations outlined in your telegram and I fully recognise the strength of the argument you have adduced in your fourth paragraph against the action proposed in my telegram No: 1960, although I do not consider that the other arguments are such as to rule out an approach to the French Government on the lines suggested.

2. In general I should prefer to see what the French Government have to say to the proposal before abandoning it completely and I should therefore be grateful if you would take the matter up informally with the French Authorities. If they represent that the practical difficulties are over-riding, you need not press the proposal.

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Reference:-

FO 371

6182A

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E

E 8054

1947

PALESTINE

2 SEP 1947 108

Registry Number

E 8054/48/31

FROM

Extract

No.

New York Times

Dated

Received in Registry

Sept. 2

Article re fate of Jews in "President Warfield"
Article appearing in the New York Times
of Aug 19, letter from Claude Pepper
to the Editor re the flight of the
Jewish Refugees in "President Warfield"

Last Paper.

805-1

(Minutes.)

References.

U.A. Dept. 8/9
Information Policy Dept. 8/9

J. E. Cable
(J. E. CABLE)
2/9

JB Sept. 2

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

J.E. 13/9

(Index)

[Signature]
28/9/48

Next Paper.

805-1

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References:-

FO 371 / 6182A

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AUGUST 19, 1947.

Letter

Plight of the Refugees

Legislator Emphasizes the Urgency of the Problem of Homeless Jews

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

It is to be hoped that the embittered passions which swept Britain and the British community in Palestine recently in connection with the brutal revenge wreaked by the Irgun against the two British sergeants will not becloud the fate of the 4,500 hapless refugees on the Exodus 1947. There are rumors that the ships on which they have been held in the burning sun outside Port le Bouc are now to be sent to an unknown destination, perhaps to some tropical British possession. I hope earnestly those rumors are false.

The tragedy of the Exodus, more than any other recent event, symbolizes the moral dilemma of our day. In the name of asserted right and by virtue of armed might, Britain has turned back in hopelessness 4,500 refugees at the very moment that they were to cross the threshold to life and freedom. True, they had not visas. But may we demand a visa of a man who runs from death or the scene of death? May we brand him sinful or criminal because, lacking a visa, he persists, nevertheless, in fleeing from those countries of Europe that were the graveyard of his relatives, his friends, his hopes?

Have I overstated the danger and threat to the refugee? It may appear that way in remote and insulated London, Washington and New York. But it will not so appear to those who have been in Central Europe since the war and have seen with their own eyes the concentration camps and the desolation, as I have. They could not conscientiously attempt to persuade the refugees that the fears and dangers are illusory.

The refugee has seen the dangers and desolation. He has buried his dead. What he saw and what he knows are seared into his flesh and bone. He will not be beguiled by judicious admonitions in objective editorials.

Not in Malice

The British Government is not acting in malice. If I judge correctly, it is acting in a kind of desperation, compounded of fear, obstinacy and confusion. For Britain is itself beleaguered and threatened by grave political and economic problems. With courage, characteristic of her people, Britain is facing up to most of those problems.

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With willful shortsightedness, not uncharacteristic of her conduct in Palestine, Britain refuses to face up to the problem of the refugees. Her answer to the problem has been taken from some dusty pigeonhole where repose the rules of imperial conduct of that earlier day when Britain was mistress of the seas and arbiter of the fate of the less fortunate peoples of the world.

Britain, which should remember best, has apparently forgotten what the history of liberty more than once shows—men will not let themselves be suffocated by sterile fiat or legalistic ukase; they will fight for the air they must breathe to live—even against a British blockade.

The meaning of the Exodus cannot be lost on the members of the United Nations Commission on Palestine. It makes indelible the words they heard from Dr. Chaim Weizmann: "We cannot wait. We have waited too long."

Move Forward or Perish

The survivors of the German death chambers have waited in line long and patiently for a chance at life and decency. That line must move forward or its ranks will perish. Would it have advanced an inch if it were not for ships like Exodus 1947? What answer—an answer more expeditious and legal—will the United Nations Commission give to those who stand, but will not wait indefinitely, for a chance to live? How will the Commission balance the metaphoric "life-line of empire" against the flesh and blood life-line?

An English writer, David Courtney, has eloquently voiced the beliefs of millions of Christian Englishmen in a column he wrote recently on the Exodus 1947. He said, "If the world cannot give dignity to the Jew, it will forfeit its own dignity and continue to be the sport of its irrational passions. No man can eat in peace the bread he withholds from his fellow-men. * * * Is there any man who in righteousness can deny the sustaining heritage of native land to a fellow-man who, by the doctrine of the very nations that dispose his fate, is born in the image of God, but by ethnic hazard a Jew?"

It is deeply heartening to find a fellow-Christian so eloquently applying the Golden Rule to one of the most burning problems of our day.

CLAUDE PEPPER.

Washington, Aug. 13, 1947.

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E 8054

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E 8055

1947

PALESTINE

SEP 1

110

Registry Number

E 8055/48/31

FROM

Legation Stockholm

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

2 Sept

Protest against treatment of Jews.

Transmit copy of telegram of Aug 26 addressed to HM Ministers, and signed by various Jewish bodies in Sweden, protesting against H.M.G. treatment of Jews as 'President Warfield'

Last Paper.

8054

References.

(Minutes.)

? Standard reply

There see E 8057

Huber
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2/9

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JB Sept. 2

(Print.)

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(Action completed.)

5/16/49

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END
COPY of a telegram dated 26th August addressed to H.M.
Minister, Stockholm.

We express our indignation and our deep sorrow about the decision of the Government of Great Britain to send the 4300 Jewish refugees on the ship exodus to Germany to the land which is imbued with Jewish blood. We demand to permit these 4300 Jews to come to Palestine. We apply to the Swedish Government to intervene at the British Government to open the gates of Palestine for the Jews on exodus. We apply to the President of the Palestine Commission at Geneva, Justice Emil Sandström, to intervene for the permission of these Jews to come to Palestine. We apply to the Palestine Commission and the whole civilized world to find a righteous solution for the problem of Palestine in the way to accord a possibility of unlimited emigration to Palestine for all the Jews who wish to settle there and especially for the homeless Jews in the camps.

World Jewish Congress Swedish Section
Scandinavian Jewish Youth Association
Jewish Student Club
Jewish Club Association of Polish Jews in
Sweden

Association of Roumanian Jews in Sweden
Hechaluz in Sweden
Bachad in Sweden
League for the Working Palestine in Sweden

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